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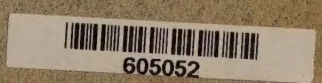
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REPORTS

FROM

COMMITTEES:

FIFTEEN VOLUMES.

—(13.)—

STAFFORD DISFRANCHISEMENT;

TURNPIKE TRUSTS.

Session

4 *February*——20 *August* 1836.

VOL. XIX.

1836.

STAFFORD DISFRANCHISEMENT:

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Brought from The Lords, 5 August 1836.

Stafford Borough Disfranchisement Bill.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN UPON THE

SECOND READING OF THE BILL,

INTITULED

"AN ACT TO EXCLUDE THE BOROUGH OF STAFFORD,

IN THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD,

FROM SENDING BURGESSES TO SERVE IN PARLIAMENT."

Ordered to be printed 16th June 1836.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
8 *August* 1836.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Die Veneris, 10° *Junii* 1836.

THE Order of the Day being read for the Second Reading of the Bill, intituled, " An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament," and for the Lords to be summoned, and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill, and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their Counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their Petition; 10 June 1836

It was moved, that Mr. *Austin* and Mr. *Rushton* be called in to examine witnesses in support of the Bill.

The same was agreed to, and ordered accordingly.

It was moved, that Mr. *Whateley* and Mr. *Whitmore* be allowed to appear for the petitioners against the Bill.

The same was agreed to, and ordered accordingly.

The Counsel were accordingly called in;

And Mr. *Austin* and Mr. *Rushton* appearing as Counsel to examine witnesses in support of the Bill, and Mr. *Whateley* and Mr. *Whitmore* appearing as Counsel on behalf of the electors of Stafford;

And Mr. *Wakefield* appearing as Counsel on behalf of certain other petitioners, stating that he was instructed by Sir Robert Sidney, who was agent to the said petitioners;

Mr. *Whateley* objected to Mr. *Wakefield* being heard as Counsel for certain petitioners, himself and Mr. *Whitmore* appearing as Counsel for the mayor and the great body of the petitioners.

The Counsel were informed that only two Counsel could appear for one set of petitioners, and that the House trusted the Counsel would settle the matter among themselves.

The Counsel were directed to withdraw.

The Counsel were again called in, and Mr. *Whateley* prayed that the agents who had instructed the Counsel might be examined as to the grounds on which they had instructed Counsel, feeling that he could not discharge his duty satisfactorily to himself, or with benefit to his clients, if he was to be interfered with, by any other interest intervening.

Mr. *Wakefield* was asked whether the persons for whom he appeared had signed the petition against the Bill, and he stated that they had.

Mr. *Whateley* being asked whether the persons for whom he appeared had signed the petition, stated that they consisted of nine-tenths of the petitioners.

Mr. *Wakefield* being asked whether his clients were burgesses or freemen, stated that they were freemen.

Mr. *Whateley* being asked whether his clients were burgesses or freemen, stated that they consisted of both.

Mr. *Whateley* being asked by whom the petition was put into the hands of the Earl of Harrowby, who presented it to the House, stated that it had been delivered to the noble Lord by the Solicitor for whom he appeared.

The Counsel were directed to withdraw.

After some time the Counsel were again called in, and informed that the House had determined that Mr. *Whateley* and Mr. *Whitmore* be allowed to attend as Counsel on behalf of the petitioners.

The said petition was read.

Charles Flint.

10 June 1836.

Then *Charles Flint*, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Austin.*] Are you a solicitor residing at Stafford?—I am.

Are you the town clerk?—I am.

Do you produce any poll-books taken at certain elections for the borough of Stafford?—I do not.

Have you any poll-books in your possession?—I have not.

Have you ever had any in your possession?—

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

The Counsel was asked to what election he was about to give evidence.

Mr. *Austin* stated that he should have occasion to refer to the elections for 1826, 1830, 1831, 1832 and 1835; that he proposed to begin with the election for 1826; but that with respect to the election of 1830, he proposed now to examine a member of the other House, a material witness, now present, who could not attend on a future day without great personal inconvenience.

The Counsel were directed to withdraw.

The Counsel were again called in, and informed that they were to proceed with their formal proof, after which the House expected that they should proceed, in the first instance, to the circumstances of the last election.

Mr. *Austin* stated that he was not prepared with evidence relating to the last election, the case having been prepared with a view to the proof, in the first instance, of the former elections; that he was instructed that the witnesses to prove the circumstances of the last election could not be in town before Wednesday.

The Witness was again called in.

Mr. *Austin.*] I asked you whether you produce any poll-books?—I do not.

How long have you been town clerk of the borough of Stafford?—I was elected on the 1st of January in the present year.

Who was your predecessor in that office?—Mr. Francis Brooks.

Have you ever received any poll-books from Mr. Brooks?—I have not.

Do you know in whose possession any poll-books taken in previous years now are?—I believe them to be in the possession of Mr. Francis Brooks.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Francis Brooks*, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Francis Brooks.

Mr. *Austin.*] WERE you the former town-clerk of the borough of Stafford?—Yes.

When did you go out of office?—Since the Act passed.

Have you any poll-books formerly taken at elections for the borough of Stafford in your possession?—Yes.

Do you produce them?—Yes.

For what year?—For July 1830; and that same book contains the poll for 1831.

Will you put them in in the order of date?—Here is the book for the 25th of July 1826.

Do you produce one for December 1826?—That is in the same book; there is one lost; I think it was that in December 1832; here is one for January 1835.

There appear to be two for the election of 1835; can you explain the state of the poll as it appears to have been taken?—I cannot.

Did you assist in taking the poll at the last election?—I was not there.

Were you present at the last election?—Part of the time, I think.

How came those two books into your possession?—The clerks brought them from the polling place.

Did the poll-clerks bring those books to you?—They were brought to my office.

Where

Where have they been since?—They have been there ever since.

Have they been in your custody ever since?—They were given to me yesterday out of the office. I had not seen them from that time to the present.

Had you ever examined them before?—No.

You simply bring up those books as books your clerks delivered to you from your office?—Yes.

Did you attend to the business of the last election?—No; I did not interfere at all.

Who did?—Mr. Weaver, my partner.

What is his christian name?—Thomas Davis Weaver.

You cannot explain the state of those books?—No, I cannot.

Do you know whether Mr. Weaver has had the books in his possession?—I cannot tell; they were given to me in the office yesterday.

Do you know whether the polling took place in two places, and whether the one began at the letter A., and the other at the letter R.?—Yes.

There is another poll-book you have not produced, that before the election in December 1832; have you had that in your possession at any time?—No. There were two poll-books; one was stolen from the mayor by some person; they snatched it from under his gown in the crowd.

At what time was that poll-book snatched from under the gown of the mayor?—I think in December 1832.

Was that during the election?—Yes.

Were one or two taken from the mayor?—One.

What became of the other?—He has got it in his possession now, the then mayor, Mr. Hughes.

You have not had it in your possession?—No.

What is his christian name?—Richard.

Is he in London?—No, he is not.

Is that the handwriting of the returning officer, signed to the last book?—It is.

The Counsel were informed, that the evidence at present given did not appear to be sufficient to authenticate the books produced as poll-books.

Mr. *Austin.*] What is the name of the clerk who delivered those books to you?—George Spilsbury.

Does he live at Stafford?—Yes, he does.

[*Four poll-books were delivered in by the Witness, containing the polls for the elections in June* 1826, *December* 1826, *July* 1830, *April* 1831, *and January* 1835.

Do you produce any registers for the borough of Stafford?—No.

Have you any in your possession?—I am not aware whether I have.

Did you ever have any registers for the borough of Stafford in your possession?—Oh, yes.

Since the Reform Bill passed?—Yes.

Where are they now?—I do not know whether they were handed over to Mr. Flint, the present town-clerk.

Was that order served upon you? [*The same being shown to the Witness.*]—Yes.

Did you in consequence of that order make search for the registers?—"All poll-books and all other writings and documents in your custody."

The registers are not pointed out?—No.

You do not know where they are?—No, I do not; there may be some in the office.

By a Lord.] Was there a contest at the last election?—Yes.

Was there any petition against the return?—I am not aware.

The Witness was directed to withdraw.

Mr. Austin stated, that this was all the evidence with which he was prepared at the present time.

The Counsel were directed to withdraw.

The Counsel were again called in, and informed, that The House had directed that they would proceed on Wednesday next with evidence proving the circumstances of the election of 1835.

The Counsel were directed to withdraw.

June 1836.

Ordered, that the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off to Wednesday next; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Jovis, 16° *Junii* 1836.

THE order of the day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled, "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford in the County of Stafford from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be further examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill, and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their petition;

The Counsel were accordingly called in.

Then *Thomas Davis Weaver* was called in, and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

D. Weaver.

June 1836.

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a solicitor at Stafford?—I am.

Are you partner of Mr. Brookes, the late town clerk?—I am.

Have you had the custody of any poll books for the borough of Stafford?—I have.

The poll books for the election of 1835?—Yes.

Have you got them here?—I believe Mr. Brookes produced them to the House.

Do you produce the register for the last election for the borough of Stafford?—I do; I have got the whole of the registers—(*the Witness produced a register.*)

Is this the register of voters for the election of 1835?—It is.

Do you produce any other registers?—Yes, I have several others.

Have you got one for the election of 1832?—I believe I have—(*the same was delivered in.*)

Have you that for 1834?—Yes; I have the registers for 1833 and 1834—(*the Witness delivered in the same.*)

By a Lord.] Have you the register made since the election?—No, I have not.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Will you look at those two books now produced to you; one of them appears to have been signed; are those the books of the poll taken at the last election for the borough of Stafford?—Yes.

Have they been in your possession?—They have.

Did you deliver them to Mr. Brookes?—Yes, they were taken out of the office.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whateley.

Did the registers you produce contain the names of all the voters for the borough of Stafford for the periods at which they were made, or merely the freemen?—All the voters, both householders in regard to property, and the burgesses.

Are they the originals?—They are.

Mr. *Austin.*] On what day of the month of January did the poll begin at the last election for Stafford?—I believe on the 5th of January.

Was that the Monday?—Yes.

It lasted into the 6th, and was closed on the 6th?—Yes.

Was that on the Tuesday?—That would be on the Tuesday.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Robert Cook* was called in, and having been sworn, was examined as follows:

Robert Cook.

Mr. *Austin.*] WHAT are you?—A tailor.

Where do you live?—At 17, Poland-street.

In London?—Yes.

Did you know Captain Gronow before last January?—Yes, I did.

Were you requested by Captain Gronow to assist him in the election at Stafford?—Yes.

About what time?—About the 3d or 4th of January, I think.

What that the last year?—1835.

Did you in consequence of that requisition proceed to Stafford?—I did.

On what day of the week?—Saturday night.

On what day of the month?—I do not remember the day of the month.

How soon before the election?—Two days.

On what day did you arrive at Stafford?—On Sunday morning.

Was that the day before the election?—The day before the election.

To what house did you go in Stafford?—To Mr. Frith's.

What was Mr. Frith?—I rather think he was a shoemaker.

Do you know where Captain Gronow lodged?—He lodged at Mr. Hutt's.

Did you see Captain Gronow on that day?—I saw him immediately on his arrival.

Did you see any of the friends of Captain Gronow on that day?—I saw two.

What were their names?—His brother, and Mr. Holland.

Were they all the friends of Captain Gronow you saw on that day?—Personal friends, they were.

Were they all the friends engaged in the election?—Oh, no.

You saw others?—Yes, a great many.

Did you gather from their conduct and conversation that they were assisting in the election?—I did.

Can you give the names of any one of them?—I do not think I know the name of more than one; Mr. Frith.

Do you know Mr. Bostock?—Yes, I do.

Did you see him on Sunday?—I rather think I did.

At Mr. Frith's house?—Yes, at Mr. Frith's house.

You say you saw several of the friends of Captain Gronow engaged in conducting the election on the Sunday; did you see them all at the same time, or did they come in one by one?—They came in one by one; there were a good many together after they had arrived.

Were you introduced to any of them?—No, I was not.

Was your name mentioned?—I believe I went by the name of Roberts.

Were you introduced by the name of Roberts to any one?—I cannot say I was; if I was addressed I was called Roberts.

Were you called by that name during the whole time you remained in Stafford?—I was, to the best of my recollection.

In the course of that day, do you remember getting any sealing-wax?—I do.

By whose direction?—By Captain Gronow's.

How much?—Six sticks.

What did you do with it?—We made some seals with it.

Where?—In Captain Gronow's bed-room.

Who made the seals?—Captain Gronow, his brother and myself.

Describe how you made the seals; upon what?—I do not know whether it was thick paper or card.

How was the thick paper or card cut?—In square pieces.

Small square pieces?—Yes.

Were the seals stamped with any impression?—One part of the seal was stamped with his crest, and the other with the whole arms.

Whose crest and arms?—Captain Gronow's.

How many of those tickets did you make?—I do not exactly remember the number.

Was it a large or a small number?—Two or three hundred at least.

Were you informed at the time for what purpose the tickets were intended?—I was not.

Had you ever been engaged in any contested election before?—Never.

Were you at the time informed of the purpose for which the tickets were intended?—Not till the next morning.

Who informed you?—I rather think it was Gronow.

Captain Gronow?—I rather think it was.

What was the information he gave you at the time you were so informed?—He said that those persons that would give me large tickets, I was to give 6*l.* to, and those that gave me small ones I was to give 3*l.* to.

Was any further information communicated to you about the tickets, and about the difference of which you have spoken?—Not that I remember.

Robert Cook.

6 June 1836.

Do you know the reason of the difference?—I know that the large ones were what they called plumpers, and the other ones were split ones.

The 6*l.* you mean by the large ones?—Yes.

And the 3*l.* for the split votes?—Yes.

Where did you get that information?—I do not exactly recollect where it was I was told it.

Was it at Stafford?—Yes.

Was it amongst the friends of Captain Gronow?—Yes.

Did you accompany Captain Gronow to the poll on the Monday morning?—I did.

At what time?—I think between eight and nine.

Was the poll open when you got there?—No; we had to wait a short time.

How long did you wait?—I think we waited about half an hour.

What took place during that period?—I heard the different gentlemen make their speeches.

And the candidates proposed?—Yes.

At the end of the half hour did you go anywhere?—Yes; then we went to the bank, I think.

With whom did you go to the bank?—With Mr. Gronow and another gentleman whose name I do not exactly recollect. I rather think it was Bostock.

Do you mean Captain Gronow?—No; his brother.

When you got to the bank, describe what took place there?—There was a check given for some money.

By whom was the check given?—I rather think it was by Mr. Gronow.

To whom did Mr. Gronow give that check?—To a person in the banking-house.

Was that in the shop belonging to the bank?—Yes.

At the counter?—Yes; to the best of my recollection.

Did Mr. Gronow take anything in exchange for the check, or not?—He took some money; a large sum of money.

In what form was it given?—Some in notes, some in gold, and some in silver.

Can you state in what description of notes?—Five pound notes, and the rest in gold and silver.

Did you thereupon leave the bank?—Yes.

What was done with the money on your leaving the bank?—It was given into my possession.

What was the whole sum?—I do not exactly recollect the sum.

About how much?—I think it was 1,000*l.*, to the best of recollection.

Had you at the time the money was given into your possession any instructions as to the purposes for which it was given you?—Yes.

Mr. *Austin* stated, that several persons intended to be called as witnesses were present; and they were directed to withdraw.

Mr. *Austin* stated, that an honourable Member of the other House was present who was proposed to be examined to the circumstances of the election in 1832; that he made no objection to his being present in case their Lordships saw no objection.

Mr. *Whateley* stated, that on the part of the petitioners, he was anxious not only from courtesy to the honourable Member, but for other reasons, that he should be present; but that he was bound to say his evidence might be most important to the petitioners.

The Counsel being asked, whether there had been a petition against the honourable Member referred to, Mr. *Whateley* stated there was not; and their Lordships intimated, that by consent of both parties, he might be allowed to remain in the House.

Mr. *Austin.*] You stated that a sum of money was given to you when you came from the bank?—I did.

I asked you whether you received any instructions, at the time you received the money, as to the purposes to which you were to apply it?—Yes, I did.

From whom?—From Mr. Gronow I think it was.

By a Lord.] Mr. Gronow and Captain Gronow were different persons?—Yes.

Mr. *Austin.*] What were those instructions?—That to every person who gave me one of the large seals I was to give 6 *l.*, but every one that gave me a small one I was to give 3 *l.*

Did you receive any further instructions as to the payment of money?—I did not, to the best of my recollection.

Do you know what became of the tickets that had been sealed over-night on the Monday morning?—I had them in my possession when we went to the Town-hall.

Was that when you went to hear the candidates proposed?—Yes.

What did you do with them when you went to hear the candidates proposed?—I had them in my possession for some time; but I afterwards gave them to somebody who was present, but I do not know who.

Have you since learned the name of the person to whom you gave the seals?—I have not.

By whose directions did you give the seals to that person?—I rather think it was by Captain Gronow's.

After you had had the money delivered to you, where did you go to?—We went to the committee, to the best of my recollection; it was Mr. Bostock's house.

Is that the Mr. Bostock you have spoken of before?—No; his father.

Did you remain there?—I remained there nearly the whole day.

In what part of the house did you remain?—On the ground floor; the back parlour, I rather think it was.

Are you sure it was Mr. Bostock's house?—No, I will not be certain; to the best of my recollection it was.

Do you know the name of the street in which it is situate?—I do not.

Were you introduced to Mr. Silvester?—I do not remember that.

It was in a parlour at all events you sat during that day?—Yes, it was.

What took place whilst you were remaining in the parlour?—Several men came in that had polled, and gave me those seals.

When did they begin to come in?—I should say between 10 and 11 o'clock, I think.

By a Lord.] On the Monday?—Yes.

Mr. *Austin.*] How did they find their way into the room?—I am sure I do not know.

Was anybody in the room with you?—The major part of the time I was by myself; one or two people came in and out.

How did they come into the room?—I do not know; it was at the back of the house.

Who opened the door for them?—I am sure I do not know.

What did you do upon their presenting themselves with their tickets?—I took the tickets and gave them the money in exchange.

Did you give them the money for their respective tickets according to your instructions?—I did.

£.6 for the large seals?—Yes; and 3 *l.* for the small ones.

To how many persons did you make payments in the course of that day?—I do not know, for I never counted them.

A large or a small number?—A large number.

What became of the tickets when you had given the money?—I took the tickets back to the house, and we burnt them.

Did the persons give you the tickets when you gave them the money?—They did before I gave them the money.

Did you make any payment without receiving a ticket in exchange?—I did not.

Did you keep all the tickets you received?—Yes, I did.

How late in the day did you continue to receive tickets and pay money?—I think it was till the close of the poll at four o'clock; three or four.

During that day you say that one or two persons had come in?—I do.

Were they persons to whom you paid money?—No; they were friends of Captain Gronow.

What were their names?—I think young Mr. Bostock came in, and his brother the other.

Was the young Mr. Bostock you now speak of the Mr Bostock to whom you were introduced on the Sunday?—It was.

And whom you saw at Mr. Frith's?—Yes.

Robert Cook.

6 June 1836.

Did anybody else come in besides those two?—Nobody else but the parties to whom I gave the money.

Did you keep any minute of the sums which you paid?—I did; I wrote it down in a pocket-book which I have.

Did you keep a minute of anything else besides the sums?—I kept a minute of their names.

How did you ascertain their names?—As they came in I asked their names.

As they answered did you put their names down?—Not immediately, but almost immediately, after I gave the money.

Whereabout did you put down the sum?—In my pocket-book.

Against the name?—Yes, against the name.

Look at that book; is that the book you allude to (*A book being shown to the witness*)?—It is.

Just open the book; what is the first name you put down on that day?—Edward Birch.

Why did you write Edward Birch down on that book?—Because he told me his name.

A person told you his name was Edward Birch?—Yes.

What sort of ticket did he bring?—He brought a large seal.

What did you give him?—I gave him 6 *l.*

Is the 6 *l.* written opposite his name?—It is.

What was the second?—William Shirley.

What did you give him?—I gave him 6 *l.*

Go on with a few names?—John Birch, 6 *l.*; William Reeves, 3 *l.*; Stephen Shenton, 6 *l.*; Frederick Smith, 3 *l.*; John Mosten, 3 *l.*; Thomas Stockledge, 6 *l.*; George Bentley, 6 *l.*; Thomas Allen, 6 *l.*; Robert Smith, 3 *l.*; Thomas Slater, 6 *l.*; Joseph Riley, 6 *l.*; Henry Shore, 6 *l.*; John Bradshaw, 6 *l.*; Joseph Stanton, 6 *l.*; John Tagg, 3 *l.*; John Stokes, 3 *l.*; William Thompson, 3 *l.*; Edward Solloway, 3 *l.*; Charles Smith, 3 *l.*; George Bate, 6 *l.*; Samuel Rotchell, 6 *l.*; Edward Bird, junior, 3 *l.*; William Smith, 3 *l.*; John Russell, 3 *l.*; Stephen Shelton, 6 *l.*; John Bladen, 3 *l.*; Stephen Snape, 3 *l.*; Joseph Bowers, 3 *l.*; Benjamin Bell, 3*l.*; John Slater, 3 *l.*; John Till, 3 *l.*; John Birteley, 3 *l.*; William Bates, 6 *l.*; Charles Smith, 3 *l.*; Thomas Brough, 6 *l.*; James Careless, 6 *l.*; James Allen, 3 *l.*; Richard Blakeman, 3 *l.*; Thomas Bruce, 3 *l.*; Thomas Brough, 6 *l.*; John Blackburne, 6 *l.*; John Till, 3 *l.*; William Benley, 3 *l.*; Reuben Brooks, 3 *l.*; John Tooth, 6 *l.*; Elias Taverner, 3 *l.*; Richard Beeman, 6 *l.*; Thomas Austin, 3 *l.*; John Allen, 3 *l.*; John Blakeman, 3 *l.*; William Ridden, 6 *l.*; James Smith, 3 *l.*; John Bladen, 6 *l.*; Thomas Bladen, 6 *l.*; Samuel Clews, senior, 6 *l.*; Henry Vickers, 6 *l.*; Henry Batt, 3 *l.*; Thomas Coveney, 3 *l.*; James Tinkler, 3 *l.*; Thomas Clews, 6 *l.*; John Shenton, 6 *l.*; William Austin, 3 *l.*; Edward Thorpe, *l.*; George Thorpe, 3 *l.*; David Brooks, 3 *l.*; John Tonks, 6 *l.*; William Brough, 6 *l.*; Thomas Thornton, 3 *l.*; Michael Slyn, 6 *l.*; Walter Birch, 3 *l.*; John Tagg, 3 *l.*; James Allen, 3 *l.*; Richard Beeman, 3 *l.*; William Bailey, 6 *l.*; George Banks, 6 *l.*; Samuel Cook, 6 *l.*; George Underhill, 6 *l.*; Richard Cook, 3 *l.*; Moses Bailey, 6 *l.*; Daniel Cook, 3 *l.*; Robert Bolton, 6 *l.*; Samuel Westbrook, 3 *l.*; Thomas Venables, 3 *l.*; William Cottrell, 7 *l.*; James Crichley, 6 *l.*; Charles Clalow, 6 *l.*; Robert Caman, 6 *l.*; Thomas Clews, 6 *l.*; Robert Collins, 3 *l.*; Thomas Wilson, 6 *l.*; James Ward, 6 *l.*; Thomas Biddulph, 3 *l.*; Walter Cartwright, 3 *l.*; James Wathington, 6 *l.*; Thomas Westbrook, 3 *l.*; John Cooper, 6 *l.*; William Taylor, 3 *l.*; Charles Cock, 3 *l.*; Charles Dudley, 6 *l.*; Charles Cork, 3 *l.*; John Dodd, 6 *l.*; William Shenton, 6 *l.*; William Brickerton, 6 *l.*; George Rose, 6 *l.*; Henry Biddulph, 3 *l.*; Abraham Aston, 6 *l.*; Samuel Cottrell, 6 *l.*; Thomas Stokes, 8 *l.*; Thomas Wood, 6 *l.*; Peter Woodwish, 6 *l.*; Thomas Dudley, 6 *l.*; James Solt, 6 *l.*; Charles Dutton, 3 *l.*; Joseph Weaver, 6 *l.*; James Salt, 3 *l.*; Thomas Orde, 6 *l.*; Francis Wood, 3 *l.*; Henry Birch, 4 *l.*; John Carter, 3 *l.*; William Wynne, 3 *l.*; Richard Campion, 3 *l.*; Thomas Wright, 3 *l.*; Charles Jones, 3 *l.*; William Dee, 6 *l.*; Lewis Spilsbury, 1 *l.*; John Cottrell, 6 *l.*; James Dale, 6 *l.*; John Woods, 3 *l.*; John Carter, 3 *l.*; George Dee, 6 *l.*; Richard Devill, 6 *l.*; James Clarke, 3 *l.*; James Clarke, 3 *l.*; Thomas Bullock, 3 *l.*; Charles Wilshaw, 3 *l.*; William Devell, 3 *l.*; Richard Smith, 6 *l.*; William Danford, 6 *l.*; W. Dickenson, 6 *l.*; Thomas Stokes, 1 *l.*; Robert Wardle, 6 *l.*; William Dyche, 6 *l.*; Richard Campion, 3 *l.*; Charles Zuvener, 3 *l.*; Samuel Clews, 3 *l.*; Thomas Wood, 6 *l.*; John Rose, 3 *l.*; George Lambert, 3 *l.*; John Ward, 3 *l.*; James Dobson, 3 *l.*; Samuel Clewes, 3 *l.*; John Ely, 6 *l.*; James Simpson, 3 *l.*; George Dale, 3 *l.*; George Tong, 3 *l.*;

Richard

Richard Blackburne, 6*l.*; John Evans, 6*l.*; James Everly, 3*l.*; Thomas Williams, 6*l.*; James Fellers, 6*l.*; Peter Butcher, 6*l.*; James Bott, 6*l.*; James Hamberton, 3*l.*; John Fore, 6*l.*; John Fenlow, 6*l.*; James Godwin, 6*l.*; John Gilbert, 6*l.*; Edward Fellers, 6*l.*; Thomas Simpson, 3*l.*; John Edwards, 6*l.*; George Edwards, 6*l.*; Robert Evans, 6*l.*; John Tonks, 6*l.*; Joseph Aspre, 6*l.*; William Tonks, 6*l.*; James Bailey, 6*l.*; Thomas Fuller, 3*l.*; John Furnis, 3*l.*; John Feller, 3*l.*; John Fenlow, 3*l.*; Charles Dutton, 6*l.*; George Godwin, 3*l.*; William Gilbert, 6*l.*; Henry Taberner, 3*l.*; John Goddard, 6*l.*; Joseph Forest, 3*l.*; John Goodall, 6*l.*; J. Godwin, 6*l.*; G. Greenwood, 6*l.*; J. Goodwin, 3*l.*; G. Godson, 6*l.*; Thomas Goodwin, 6*l.*; John Greenwood, 6*l.*; S. Gilbert, 6*l.*; John Stanton, 3*l.*; and Joseph Evans, 3*l.*

Are those all the sums that you paid?—Yes, to the best of my recollection.

I observe in the outset you stated you paid 7*l.* to William Cottrell?—I did.

Can you explain the reason you paid that sum to him?—I do not recollect now.

You stated that you gave 1*l.* to Thomas Stokes and 1*l.* to Lewis Spilsbury?—I rather think that was for doing something at some public-house, but what it was I do not recollect; he brought me a written piece of paper from somebody.

Do you remember whether you paid those two sums on tickets being presented to you, such as you have described, or on their bringing other pieces of paper?—They brought another piece of paper written upon.

The 7*l.* you have forgotten the occasion of?—I have.

How came you to pay 8*l.* to Thomas Stokes?—I think he brought a written paper to say he was to have 2*l.* extra.

Did he also bring one of the tickets?—He did.

A larger or a smaller one?—A large ticket.

Were all the entries made in that book on the first day of polling?—They were.

Have you had that book in your possession ever since?—Yes, till the other day.

To whom did you deliver it the other day?—To Mr. Parkes.

You say you had all the tickets at the close of the day; what did you do with them?—I took them home and burnt them.

What do you mean by taking them home?—I took them to Mr. Frith's.

By whose directions did you burn them?—By Captain Gronow's.

Did you show them to any person before you burnt them?—I think I showed them to him.

What was the total sum you paid on that day, as entered in that book?—I do not recollect, but it is down in the book.

Did you cast it up?—I did; it is 979*l.*

How many persons are there to whom you paid money?—I have not counted them.

Have you calculated how many persons there are to whom you paid 6*l.*, and how many to whom you paid 3*l.*?—No, I have not.

Have you compared that list with the poll-book?—I have never seen the poll-book.

Or with the register of electors?—No.

What did you do after you had paid the money on the first day of the poll?—I went home.

Is that to Mr. Frith's?—Yes.

Did you see Captain Gronow in the evening?—I did.

And his brother?—I did.

And any other persons?—And several other persons.

Were those the persons, or any of them, you had seen on the Sunday?—They were, a great many of them.

Can you give us any of their names?—I do not remember their names.

Were they respectable persons in appearance?—Yes, they were, some of them; the major part of them.

Was Mr. Bostock one of them?—He was.

I ask you as to the persons present on the evening of Sunday?—Yes

Did you understand me so when you gave that answer just now?—I did.

Did they appear to you to be persons conducting Captain Gronow's election? They did.

Robert Cook.

6 June 1836.

Was their conversation upon that subject?—It was.

Do you know whether any determination was come to, any understanding, with respect to Captain Gronow's election, by the parties assembled there?—I do not.

Did you hear any conversation about the election?—I heard Captain Gronow say he was afraid he should lose it.

After you heard him say that, was the question of his success discussed by the persons present?—Some of them said that they thought they were certain of his getting in.

Was that question discussed?—Yes.

Was any plan of conduct resolved on by the meeting with respect to the election on that occasion?—They said some of them should go out and canvass, and that there should be bills printed.

How were the persons sitting in the room when this conversation took place?—They were sitting all round the room.

Was there a table there?—There was.

Paper and ink?—No, I do not think there was; there might have been on the sideboard.

Was there any discussion among them with respect to the purchase of votes?—Not to my recollection; I did not pay any attention.

Where were you sitting?—I was sitting by the fire.

You say you paid no attention?—Not much.

How long were they discussing in the evening?—I think till about ten o'clock.

At what time did the discussion begin?—About seven, I think.

From seven to ten?—Yes; to the best of my recollection.

Was there any conversation during that time respecting the purchase of votes?—Not to my recollection there was not.

Was there any conversation with respect to the price of votes?—I heard some of them say that Goodricke, I think his name was, and Furrard, were giving 8*l.*; I caught that.

Mr. *Whateley* submitted this was not evidence, the witness not being able to state the names of the persons who made the statement.

The Counsel was informed that this evidence might be received.

Mr. *Austin.*] Did you hear any thing further said upon that subject?—I do not remember.

After you had heard that observation, did you hear any further observation as to the price to be paid?—No, I did not.

Did you hear any remarks addressed to Captain Gronow as to the sums of money to be paid?—I only heard him tell him that that was all.

Do I understand you to say that remark was made to Captain Gronow?—Yes.

Did you hear the remark that preceded that?—No, I did not.

Did you hear what was said after that?—No, I did not catch what Captain Gronow said.

Did you hear any remarks from any other parties afterwards upon that subject?—I cannot say that I did.

At what time in the evening did this remark take place?—I do not exactly remember the hour.

How long did they continue conversing together afterwards?—Some time.

What was the subject of the subsequent discusssion?—Merely hoping that Captain Gronow would get in. I did not pay much attention to what was passing.

Is that all you can recollect of the conversation?—To the best of my recollection at present it is.

What did you do the next morning?—The next morning we went up to the Town Hall.

You say we went up. Who went up?—Captain Gronow, his brother and myself.

How long did you remain there?—Not very long.

What did you do when you left the Town Hall?—We came back to Mr. Frith's; and then we started off.

You left the town?—Yes.

You returned to London?—Yes.

By a Lord.] With Captain Gronow?—Yes.

Mr. *Austin.*]

Robert Cook.

16 June 1836

Mr. *Austin.*] Was any balance left in your hands, any sum of money, after you left the banker's?—There was; it was given to Mr. Gronow.

By whom?—By me.

When did you give that to Mr. Gronow?—On Monday afternoon.

By a Lord.] What was the balance?—I do not remember.

That was the balance of the 1,000*l.* received at the banker's?—Yes it was.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whateley.

How long had you been acquainted with Captain Gronow at the time you went down to Stafford?—I had known him some years.

As a friend, or as his tailor?—As both.

What age are you now?—One-and-twenty.

By a Lord.] You were not of age at the time this took place?—I was not.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Were you apprentice to your father as a tailor?—I was never an apprentice.

You are learning the tailoring trade?—Yes.

Did Captain Gronow apply to you personally to go down?—He wrote to my father.

How long before you went down did he write to your father?—I think the day before.

Had you been on terms of great intimacy with him before that time?—Not particularly so.

You were a personal friend of his before?—Yes.

Had you taken interest in the former elections at Stafford?—No.

Had you ever been at Stafford in your life before the day you arrived there on this occasion?—No, never.

Did you go down in Captain Gronow's carriage?—I went down by the mail.

Who paid your expenses?—Captain Gronow.

Anything for your time and trouble?—No.

Where did you lodge when you were at Stafford?—At Mr. Frith's.

In the same house with Captain Gronow?—Yes; with the exception of one night, when I slept at the Swan, I think it was.

You were boarded altogether, I suppose?—Yes.

Where did Mr. Gronow lodge?—He lodged in the same house.

Were there any other persons besides?—There was a person of the name of Holland.

Who is Holland?—He is a friend of Captain Gronow.

What trade is he?—I do not know what trade he is; he lives at Wimbledon.

Were you a good deal surprised when you were asked by Captain Gronow to go to Stafford?—I was rather.

Did he mention to you the purpose for which he wanted you to go?—He mentioned it to my father; he wrote to my father.

Have you got the letter?—No.

Have you seen that letter lately?—Not for months; I cannot say that I have seen it within this twelvemonth.

Do not you think you have seen it within a twelvemonth?—I may have seen it within a twelvemonth.

Where?—At home.

Have you looked for it since that time?—I have.

Have you been able to find it?—I have not.

How lately have you seen Captain Gronow?—I have not seen him since last October.

Do you know where he is now?—He is now at Boulogne.

How lately have you seen his brother?—I have seen his brother about four months ago; three or four months.

Where?—At my house.

As a visitor?—No; he merely called.

As a visitor?—No; he called to pay a bill.

Do I understand you to say that before you went to Stafford you were acquainted with a single individual living in that town?—No, I was not.

What time did you arrive in Stafford on the Sunday?—I think it was 12 o'clock.

Being Sunday, I take for granted you did not go much about the town on that day?—I did not go about the town at all, I think.

Robert Cook.

16 June 1836.

Except Mr. Frith and Mr. Bostock, did you become acquainted with any other individual in Stafford that day?—There were several that called, but who they were I do not know.

You say you have none of the tickets you have spoken of?—I have not.

Did you burn those on the Monday or the Tuesday?—On the Monday evening, I think.

Will you take upon yourself to say that any one individual in the world ever saw those tickets after you had received them from the persons in the room, excepting yourself?—And Captain Gronow.

Do you mean to say positively that Captain Gronow did?—I am sure he did.

Do you say that any other person did?—I do not think they did.

By a Lord.] Did you burn them yourself?—We did together.

Mr. *Whateley.*] How many tickets will you take upon yourself to say there were made?—I will say from 200 to 300, I think.

What became of the remainder; did you give the whole of those you made away in the first instance?—Yes.

To whom?—I do not know to whom.

You gave the whole away?—Yes.

You received back only about 190 odd, I think?—I do not know how many I received back; I did not count them.

By a Lord.] All you received back were those delivered by the persons whose names you have read out of your book?—Yes.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Certain persons represented themselves as bearing certain names, and gave you a ticket, and to those persons you gave money?—Yes.

Did you know whether those persons had a vote, or had ever voted?—No.

Did you not give any tickets to women?—I think in one or two instances two or three women came and gave me tickets.

And you gave money in return?—I did.

Were there not several children came?—I did not see any.

You do not remember seeing any?—No.

Will you take upon you to say there were no children came and brought tickets?—There were not.

I perceive in that list there are many persons of the same name?—Yes.

Did you take any means of ascertaining whether the same person came more than once, or whether a person representing the same name came twice, or three times?—I am sure that the same person did not come a second time.

But you have no means of ascertaining whether another person did not give the same name?—No.

Whether they might not two or three times represent the same individual?—I know that the same person did not give me a ticket twice over.

But you do not know that two or three persons might not claim to represent the same individual bringing different tickets?—To whoever brought tickets I gave the money.

Do not you know that 941 persons voted at the election?—No.

You never heard it?—No.

I understand you to say, that Mr. Gronow and some other person, whom you think was Bostock, and yourself, went to the bank in Stafford?—Yes.

What was the name of that bank?—I do not know.

Where is it situated?—I do not know the name of any street in Stafford; but it was in the principal street, I think.

In the same street where the Swan is?—I think it was.

Was any bill produced at that time by Mr. Gronow; any banker's draft?—There was a check given.

Was any bill produced by the banker that had been sent down there?—I did not see any.

Do you remember any discussion taking place as to a person's name being required to indorse it?—No.

Did you take the money directly from the bank to the house where you paid the tickets?—Yes.

Did you learn from Mr. Gronow where that money came from to the Stafford bank?—I did not.

Nor from Captain Gronow?—No.

Did you ever learn from them that there was a bill of sight forwarded from London,

London, from Messrs. Williams & Company's bank, of 1,000*l.*, payable to Mr. Thomas Gronow?—No, I never heard that.

Did you go to a banker's in Stafford, of the name of Stevenson, Salt & Company?—I only went to that one banker's.

Do you remember whether that is the name?—I do not.

Was Captain Gronow at the bottom of the poll on the first day?—I think he was; but I do not remember.

How many candidates were there at that election?—I think there were five.

Had you the tickets in your possession from the time you sealed them, till the time that you gave them to some person on the morning of the polling?—No, I had not.

Who had them?—They were in Captain Gronow's bed-room.

You say you went to Bostock's father's house on the morning of the polling?—I think it was Mr. Bostock's father's.

Are you sure that it was not a man of the name of Silvester?—I could not undertake to say.

What made you give the name of Mr. Bostock's father?—Because I thought it was.

Do you mean to abide by that answer, that it was Mr. Bostock's father?—I could not undertake to say. I thought I heard them say that it was Bostock.

Who told you to go by a false name, by the name of Roberts?—Captain Gronow.

Was that before you left London?—No; when I got to Stafford.

On the first day?—On the first day, on the Sunday.

What reason was assigned by Captain Gronow for giving you a false name?—He did not assign any reason; he said he did not want people to know who I was.

He was afraid it would injure his friend's character?—I do not know.

But you did pass by the name of Roberts at that time?—I did.

Did you return to London with Captain Gronow?—I did.

Did you learn from him where Mr. Gronow got that money from that was paid into the bank at Stafford?—I never heard.

Who proposed Captain Gronow at the election?—I think it was Mr. Frith.

The person in whose house you were all living?—Yes.

Do you remember who seconded him?—I do not.

By a Lord.] What is Mr. Frith?—He is a shoemaker, I believe.

Mr. *Whateley.*] You said in one of your answers, after you got to the house that you thought was Bostock's father's, several men came in and said they had polled, and gave you the tickets?—Yes.

You did not know that they had polled?—No.

You never attended the poll one minute that it was going on?—No, I do not think that I did.

By a Lord.] You never knew who distributed the seals to the people?—I did not.

Was any person present at the time you paid them?—No, there was not; now and then somebody came into the room.

But who those persons were you do not know?—Mr. Gronow came in now and then, and I think Mr. Bostock, junior, came in now and then.

What age was he?—A young man about 28 or 30, I should say, but I would not be certain.

But no person to give you any information as to those who brought the tickets?—No.

You returned with Captain Gronow to London?—I did.

Are all the marks in this book made by yourself?—I have not looked at the book.

Look at them? [*The Witness looked at the book*]—No; not all the marks are not.

What part of those marks was not made by yourself?—Some of these; the outside ones.

Are none of the outside ones made by you?—No.

Who made those?—I do not know.

Were those made when the book was in your possession?—They were not made the other day.

Robert Cook.

16 June 1836.

Then this book has been altered since you gave it up?—I do not know; I suppose so.

Is that book in the same state that it was when you gave it up to Mr. Parkes?—No, certainly not.

In what respect does it differ?—It differs in these outer marks, I think.

Was the book all written in pencil at the time you gave it him?—It was.

Here are some figures in the inside; are those your making also?—No.

Then you can give no explanation of those marks in the book that were not made by yourself?—No.

Are you quite sure that they were not made by you when you gave it up?—I am certain of it.

By a Lord.] What are the marks?

Mr. *Whateley* stated, that they were queries and figures put inside.

Mr. *Whateley.*] When did you see that book first after the time that you made the entries in it; has it been in your possession ever since?—It has been in my possession ever since.

Where?—In my pocket.

Has it been your constant companion ever since?—Yes.

By a Lord.—Up till when?—Till about 10 days ago.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Who applied to you for it then?—Mr. Parkes.

Was he a friend of yours before that time?—No.

When did you first become acquainted with Mr. Parkes?—About ten days ago.

Did you then give up this book to him?—I sealed it, and sent it to him.

By a Lord.] who is Mr. Parkes?

Mr. *Whateley* stated, that Mr. Parkes was the solicitor for the Bill.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Did Mr. Parkes apply to you personally in the first instance?—He did not; he wrote me a note.

When did you first give the account you have now given to anybody; did you first give it to Mr. Parkes?—Yes.

Had you ever mentioned it to anybody before?—Not to anybody excepting my father.

Then, excepting your father, you never mentioned to anybody, up to the time you saw Mr. Parkes, any facts relating to this election or to this book?—No.

You kept it quite secret that you had gone by the name of Roberts by the mail to Stafford?—Yes.

Do you mean to say that at the time you went to Stafford you did not at all know the purpose for which you were going?—I believe I did.

What was the purpose that you were told you were to go for?—To assist in the election.

Was that all you were told?—I think it was; and saying, that I should have to pay the money; I will not be certain.

Who told you that?—It was written in this letter.

You mean to say that in this letter was written that they wanted you to go to Stafford to pay the money?—Yes.

By a Lord.] Can we see that letter?—I have looked for it, and cannot find it.

Is it in your father's possession?—No; I asked him for it. We have looked everywhere for it.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Is your father alive?—He is.

Is he here?—No.

Now, to the best of your memory, tell me what was written in that letter?—

The Counsel were informed that this evidence appeared hardly to lay foundation enough for hearing parol evidence of the contents of the letter.

Mr. *Austin* stated that, on the part of the promoters of the Bill, he did not object to the witness stating the contents of the letter.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Was Captain Gronow a customer of your father's before that time?—He was.

And is so now?—He is.

You

Robert Cook.

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You have said that you heard some one say that Goodricke and Farrand were paying 8 *l.* a vote; now tell me, upon your oath, any one single individual that you will say uttered those words?—I do not know who the parties were.

Tell me the persons, as far as you can remember, that were in the room at that time?—There were a great many people in the room.

Mention their names?—I do not know them.

Was Captain Gronow present?—He was.

Was his brother present?—He was.

Was Mr. Frith present?—That I could not answer for.

Tell me any other person that you can say was present?—I do not recollect anybody else by name that was present.

Bostock?—I could not say.

How many persons were in the room at the time?—I should think there were a dozen; but this was not said out loud.

Whispered?—Yes.

How came you to hear if it was whispered?—I happened to be sitting near where Captain Gronow was standing when it was told to him.

Did not it excite your attention?—No; I did not pay much attention to it.

If you heard it whispered, cannot you tell me who whispered it?—Not by name.

Was it Captain Gronow's brother?—No.

Was it Frith?—No.

Do you remember what was said before that time to lead to it?—I think it was said when Captain Gronow said he was fearful he should lose his election.

Whom did he say that to?—To the same person.

Was that said in a whisper also?—No.

Was that a Stafford person?—I should say so, certainly.

Do you know whether it was or not?—I could not answer for it.

Was it Bostock's father?—I do not think it was.

Or Sylvester?—No.

You cannot remember any person that said it?—I do not remember the names; only two or three.

Was any observation made when that was whispered?—No, I do not think there was.

Not by Captain Gronow?—I did not catch the observation, if he made any.

Re-examined by Mr. Austin.

You say that you received a note from Mr. Parkes?—I did.

Did you see Mr. Parkes in consequence of that note?—I did.

Did he call upon you, or did you go to him?—I called upon him.

Did he interrogate you as to what you knew of the Stafford election?—He did.

Among other things, did you mention that book to him?—I did.

Had you that book with you at that time?—No, I had not.

How was it delivered to him?—I sealed it up, and sent it down.

Had you ever shown it to anybody at that time?—Never.

Did you inform Mr. Parkes of that fact?—Yes, I did; I think I gave it to Mr. Parkes himself; I sealed it up, and gave it to him.

Did he ask you for it, or did you volunteer that book to him?—He asked me for it in the first instance, when I had not got it.

Was that before or after you had told him of the contents of the book?—That was after I had told him of the contents of the book.

I understand you then to say that he inquired as to the contents of the book?—He did.

Have you looked at the book?—I have.

Are there any other alterations in it than the marks and the queries?—I do not think there are.

Look at it and see?—I do not see any.

With the exception of the queries and the small marks, is the book in the same state as when you delivered it to Mr. Parkes?—It is, precisely.

I understood you to say that your father knew the purpose for which you were going to Stafford?—He did.

The letter was addressed to him?—It was.

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And he therefore has all along known that you went to Stafford?—He has.

Did you communicate to him what took place at Stafford?—I told him part of it.

You have been asked with respect to the names of the persons who were present when you heard it communicated to Captain Gronow that Mr. Farrand was giving 8 *l.*; did you know any of the persons present?—I do not know if anybody else heard it besides myself.

Do you know the names of any persons at Stafford except those you have mentioned?—Only Mr. Frith and Mr. Bostock; I think that is all.

Were the persons who were present when this communication was made to Captain Gronow any of the persons who were present on the evening of the Sunday?—Yes, certainly.

Was Mr. Holland there at that time?—He was.

Who is Mr. Holland?—A person living at Wimbledon.

Do you know what he is?—I do not; I know he is a tradesman, formerly in the navy.

Is that all you know of him?—It is.

Have you seen him since?—I have, once or twice.

How long ago?—I have not seen him these 12 months.

Do you know whether he lives there now?—I could not take upon myself to say, but I rather think he does.

You have said in your evidence in chief, that you paid the money to the persons who had polled, and you have been asked how you knew that they had polled?—I could not say that they had polled; I merely gave the money to the parties presenting tickets.

Did they, or any of them, make any statement to you at the time when they presented tickets?—No, they did not.

Did they say who they were, and why they came?—They merely gave me their names; I gave them the money, and they went away again.

You have told us that there were five candidates; what were their names?—Captain Chetwynd was one, Farrand was another, Goodricke was another, Gronow was another, and Wolsey was the fifth.

By a Lord.] Who was returned?—Captain Chetwynd and Goodricke.

Can you state which parties were united at the election; whether Gronow and Farrand went upon the same interest, or canvassed together?—I cannot.

Mr. Farrand, the gentleman who you heard say had given 8 *l.*, was an unsuccessful candidate?—He was.

Did you hear anything said in the room as to any money given by the successful candidates?—Only Goodricke, I think.

What did you hear upon that subject?—I heard that he was giving 8 *l.*

That was not stated in the early part of your evidence, was it?—Goodricke and Farrand were the two that I heard were giving it.

Do you know the handwriting that the check was in?—I do not.

That check was delivered to the banker's?—It was.

Do you recollect the banker's name?—No.

Do you know in what part of the town it was?—I know it was in one of the principal streets.

Was it near the market-place?—It was not very far from the market-place.

Was it the corner house?—I think it was not a corner house.

That check you got from Mr. Gronow?—I did not get the check; I had nothing to do with the check.

What was it you took to the bankers?—It was not myself that took it; it was Mr. Gronow that took it.

How do you know that?—I went with him.

And saw him receive the money?—Yes.

He produced the check for which that money was paid?—Yes.

Do you know whose check it was?—I did not see that.

How do you know it was a check?—I suppose it was, by its being given to the banker.

Had you any reason to know that Mr. Gronow kept money at that house?—I had not.

Was it a Bank of England note?—I should say, certainly not.

Where is that Mr. Gronow now?—I do not know.

When did you see him last?—I have not seen him for three months.

Where

Robert Cook.

16 June 1836.

Where was he then?—He was staying then at Hatchett's; he merely came to town for a day.

Where does he live in the country?—Somewhere in Wales.

Is he a customer at your house?—No, not now.

When was he?—He has not been for these two years.

Then he was not a customer at your house at the time of this transaction?—Yes, he was.

You have no idea where he is living now?—No; but I could get his address.

You can speak positively to the persons whose names you have got upon this book being the persons who received the money for the seals?—Certainly.

How do you know that all of them received those seals in payment for votes given?—That I could not take upon myself to say.

Where they were neither for 6 *l.* nor for 3 *l.*, have you any reason to suppose that any part of the consideration was for a vote given at the election?—There was one for 8 *l.*, which was given because I was told to give 2 *l.* more.

There was a large seal, and a note by which you were directed to pay 2 *l.* more?—Yes.

And the same with respect to the 7 *l.*?—Yes.

Did the person who took the 4 *l.* produce a seal for 3 *l.* and an order for 1 *l.*?—He did.

The person who received 1 *l.*, what was that for?—I do not know what that was for.

That could not have been for a vote?—No; it was not, certainly, for a vote.

You stated that you kept that book about your person from that time to within 10 days of the present time?—I did; I locked it up part of the time, but the principal part I had it about my person.

How did Mr. Parkes find you out?—I do not know.

You did not know him before?—No.

You say you had some papers as well as those tickets?—I do not think I brought them away with me from Stafford.

Whose handwriting were they in?—That I do not know.

Was it a handwriting which you were acquainted with?—I rather think it was in Mr. Gronow's handwriting.

Most likely it was, or else you would not have paid any attention to a handwriting you did not know?—No, I should not.

Was there any writing upon the tickets?—None at all.

Were you very familiar with Mr. Gronow's handwriting?—Yes.

Have you any doubt whether those papers were his, namely, the notes that were sent to you during the election to pay money?—I have not the least doubt they were.

What were the contents of those notes?—It was merely, give the bearer so much.

Among the persons that came to you with those tickets, had any of them the appearance of respectable persons?—Some of them; very few.

Most of them seemed the poorer classes of the town?—They did.

Did any of them appear very poor?—Some of them did, very.

But very few were what you call, from their appearance, respectable persons?—Very few.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, that the further consideration and second reading of the said bill be put off till to-morrow, and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Veneris, 17° Junii 1836.

17 June 1836.

THE Order of the Day being read for the further consideration and Second Reading of the Bill, intituled "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford in the County of Stafford from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the Preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their Counsel or Agents, on the matters contained in their Petition;

Counsel were accordingly called in.

Edward Herford.

17 June 1836.

Then *Edward Herford*, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Austin.*] ARE you a clerk of Mr. Parkes's?—I am.

Did you receive from Mr. Parkes a small memorandum book to copy?—Not to copy.

Did you receive such a book from Mr. Parkes?—Yes, I did.

Was that a book containing pencil entries?—Yes, it was.

Is that the book you spoke of [*A book being handed to the Witness*]?—Yes, it is.

For what purpose was that book handed to you?—In order to compare the names entered in this book and the figures opposite them with the names in the poll-book.

Is that the book with which you compared them [*Another book being shown to the Witness*]?—There were two books; this is one of the books.

Is that the other [*A third book being shown to the Witness*]?—It is.

Did you compare them?—I did.

In the course of the comparison did you make any marks in pencil in the small book?—Yes.

What marks?—When I found a complete correspondence, when I found the name to correspond with the name in the poll-book, and the figures here of 6 to correspond with the plumpers in the poll-book, I put a dot opposite the name. When I could not find the name mentioned in this book in the poll-book, then I put a tick on the right hand of the figure, so as to look at it again afterwards, to be quite sure that I did not miss it. When I found something that appeared to be the same name, although there was not an exact correspondence, then I put a quere, a Q.

Did you examine the whole list of names in that book with the copy of the poll books that is now before you?—I did.

How many of the names did you find to correspond with the entries of the names in the poll-book?—I have not the whole number; but the whole of the names are here, except about 56; 56 at the outside, I think.

Do I understand you to say that the list corresponded in name and figure?—Both surname and Christian name, and in the spelling, and all the particulars.

And in the case in which the figure 6 was set against any name, how did it appear that such name was entered in the poll-book as a plumper or as a double vote?—As a plumper there was a figure in the column relating to Captain Gronow's supporters.

Did you find that invariably so?—I think invariably so, to the best of my knowledge; I took great care.

By a Lord.] How many names are there in the little book?—I have not counted them.

Mr. *Austin.*] I observe in the list that the figure 1 is set against the name of Thomas Stokes, and 1 against the name of Louis Spilsbury; did you find those names in the poll-book?—No.

There is another Thomas Stokes, against whose name the figure 8 is set; did you find that name in the poll-book?—Yes, I have marked it so; yes, I did.

As a plumper or a double Vote?—As a plumper.

Did you find the name of William Cotterell in the poll-book?—There is a variation in the spelling. I did.

The figure 7 is set against that name, is it not?—Yes.

You say you found it in the poll-book, a plumper or a double vote?—A plumper.

The name of Henry Birch occurs with the figure 4 against it; did you find that in the poll-book?—Yes; I have marked it so.

A plumper or a double vote?—A split vote.

You said just now that there were a certain number of names that did not correspond with the entries in the poll-book; in what respect did they differ?—In some there was a slight variation in the spelling; in others, in the case of two or three, instances were found of payments for split votes here, where there was a plumper marked in the poll-book, the name being the same.

In two instances?—I am almost sure there were three; and in other instances I think

Edward Herford.

17 June 1836.

I think the name must have been intended to have been the same, though not exactly so.

Give some instances of the variation you speak of?—The first on the list is Rotchall; the name in Mr. Cook's memorandum is spelt *Rotchall* with a *t*, instead of *Rochell* without a *t*.

What is the Christian name?—Samuel.

And you find the name on the poll-book without a *t*?—Yes. The next is Henry *Shore*; in the poll-book it is *Shaw*.

You find Henry Shaw in the Poll Book?—Yes; and the name of John *Birtels*, spelt *tels*, in the poll-book *tles*; William *Bates*, in the poll-book it is written William *Bate*; Robert Smith in the memorandum, has another Christian name in the poll-book, Robert *Willess* Smith; Richard *Beamont*, it is Richard *Beamon*, without the *t*, in the poll-book; and the next is one which I put as a suggestion, Edward *Bird*, it is Edward *Bott* in the poll-book.

You do not find Edward Bird in the poll-book?—Edward *Bott* in the poll-book; and Stephen *Shelton* is substituted for Stephen *Shenton*; then there follow two names that I could not at all identify, John Morten and John Carless; there was a voter of the name of Carless, but he was not marked as being one of Captain Gronow's in the copy.

Then you found him in the poll?—Not under Captain Gronow's.

Did you find him at all in the poll?—Yes, I did.

Did you know for whom he voted?—I can tell by referring to the book. (*The Witness referred to the Book.*) In the book it is *Thomas* Carless, in the memorandum it is *John* Carless, voted for Farrant and Godericke; then John and Richard *Backburn*, two names put instead of John and Richard *Blackband*, the sums paid corresponding with their vote in both cases. I cannot find the name of John Till. Then a Christian name *Reuben* Brooks, appears to be the same as *William* Brooks in the poll-book, at least there is a *William* Brooks in the poll-book, who voted for Captain Gronow, and there is a *Reuben* Brooks mentioned in the memorandum-book as having received a sum. Samuel *Clews* senior instead of Samuel *Clowes*, spelt *Clews* instead of *Clowes*; Henry Bott instead of Henry *Greensmith* Bott; Thomas *Coveney*, in the poll-book it is Thomas *Cofield*, but the sums correspond.

He gave a single vote for Captain Gronow?—I do not know that; but I can refer to it. (*The Witness referred.*) A split vote it was; I have marked them split votes and plumpers. Robert Bolton, *Bol* instead of *Boul*; James *Gritchley* instead of *Crutchley*, and *Thomas* Biddulph instead of *George* Biddulph, the sum corresponding to the vote. Thomas *Orde* I can only find for Thomas *Ward* in the poll-book, the sum corresponding to the vote. Charles Cook, I have not been able to find any thing like it in the poll-book.

Did you find the name of Charles *Cork* in the poll-book?—Yes, I did.

For whom did Charles Cork vote?—A plumper for Gronow.

What figure is against the name of Charles Cook in the pencil-book?—A 3.

Go on with the list of variations?—John Carter is in the poll-book stated as having plumped; there are two payments marked of 3*l*. each in the little book, and the same with respect to Charles Cork, which I was mentioning before; and the same with respect to Richard Campion; those are the three names which I mentioned first: and then comes the name of Charles Jones, which I cannot find at all in the poll-book; and then the names of Thomas Stokes and Lewis Spilsbury, opposite to the name the figure 1 is marked in the memorandum-book.

By a Lord.] What did Jones receive in the memorandum-book?—A 3.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you find any voter of the name of Jones upon the poll-book? I am nearly sure there was the name; there were several of the name of Jones, but none of them which corresponded with the memorandum entry.

None with the Christian name of Charles, is that what you mean?—No; I do not think there was any voter of the name of Jones for Captain Gronow, or I should have noticed it; if there had been the same surname I should have noticed the discrepancy in the book.

But there were voters of the name of Jones on the poll?—I think so; I am nearly sure so. (*The Witness referred to the book.*) I find two or three here; William Jones, Peter Jones, Thomas Jones, and Richard Jones, and Peter Jones junior. There is another very strong discrepancy here, which I have noted; Charles

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Lavener it is in the memorandum-book, but I can find nothing at all nearer to that than the name of Charles *Davenhall*, but the sum corresponds with the vote.

And he voted for Captain Gronow?—He did.

Single or double?—A split vote.

Is he entered with three or six?—Three.

Is it Charles Davenhall junior in the poll-book?—This is Charles Davenhall, not junior; neither of them are called junior in the copy of the poll-book which I have; one voted for Captain Gronow, and the other did not. There are two names, George *Dee* and William *Dee*, instead of George *Day* and William *Day*. Thomas Wood is a split vote in the poll-book, and has a 6 opposite his name in the memorandum-book. James Clarke instead of James *Knight* Clarke. Thomas Bullock I cannot find.

Did you find any other Bullock upon the poll?—I do not recollect; I think there was not that name at all upon the poll. Samuel *Clews* was another instance where it is a plumper in the memorandum-book, and a split vote in the poll-book. William *Devell* instead of *Davill*. John *Ely* instead of John *Elley*, George Dale instead of George *Sickerson* Dale; and there is one that may be the same, George *Tong* instead of *Tonkes*. James *Everley* instead of *Ebberley*. John Tonkes, and James Bailey I cannot find. James Bott instead James Bott *junior*, in the poll-book. Thomas Fuller I cannot find. James Hamberton——

Have you found any name like Fuller?—The name of *Fowler*, but I think not the same Christian name, and there is the name of *Follows*, and there seems to be a confusion between the name of *Fuller*, *Fowler* and *Follows*. James *Hamberton*, instead of James *Emberton*; and I find the name John *Furness* in the memorandum-book, and no name like that except John *Furneyhough*.

Which way did Furneyhough vote?—A plumper for Gronow, of course, according to the directions. John *Fore* instead of John *Ford*, John *Fenlow* instead of John *Finlow*, John *Foller* instead of John *Follows*, and Edward *Follers* instead of Edward *Follows*; and three names I cannot find, John Goddard, Joseph Forest, George Greenwood; and in the name of William and Samuel Cottrell they are spelt *Cottrell*, in the poll-book they are spelt *Cotterhill*; and *Edward* Greenwood I do not find; I find *Henry* Greenwood, with the same corresponding vote.

Which way did Henry in the poll-book vote?—For Captain Gronow.

What sum is against his name?—Six.

Did he vote a plumper?—I beg your pardon; that is George Greenwood. (*The Witness referred to the Poll-book.*)

Do you find the name in the book?—No.

Have you examined that book with the register as well as with the poll?—No, I have not yet seen the register.

Could you make out a list of the names that appear in that book with the poll-book and the Register?—Yes.

With the exception of the names that you have mentioned to their Lordships, you say that the rest of the names tally in spelling?—Yes, in spelling.

In sums?—Yes.

And in the votes that appear upon the face of the poll-book?—Yes.

A plumper for 6*l.* and a split vote for 3*l.*?—Except there was one case of 8*l.* and another of 6*l.*, and one of 3*l.*; and there were two cases of 6*l.*; that, as I said before, I cannot make out.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

That book was given to you, and the poll-book, in order, if possible, to make them correspond; to see if you could find those that would correspond?—Yes, exactly.

But you have found only 142 that do correspond?—That is the difference, I presume, that exactly correspond.

How many are there that you do not find at all?—Fourteen; I believe those are the numbers.

Fourteen that there was no name at all like it?—Yes.

And a great many others, that if you had not been seeking for a comparison, you would not have thought represented the same name?—Several; but a great many others that I think there cannot be a shadow of doubt do ——

If you were going to call on a man of the name of Coveney, and found a man of the name of Cofield, you would not address him as Coveney?—No.

And

Edward Herford.

17 June 1836.

And so, if you were going with a letter to Mr. Lavener, and found Mr. Davenhall, you would not give him the letter, I presume?—No.

How many are there like those?—*Shelton* instead of *Shenton*, which would come under that perhaps; the name of *Blackburne* in the memorandum-book for *Backband*.

Give me a third?—Gritchley I think hardly would; the sound is rather similar; Gritchley and Crutchley.

You think they are alike?—Yes, it struck me so.

By a Lord.] What was the real name, the name on the poll-book?—Crutchley.

Mr. *Whateley.*] *Reuben* Brooks for *William* Brooks; what do you say to that?—It is perfectly different; I only took it down in pursuance of my instructions.

To make out as long a list as you could?—No; whenever it occurred to me that there was any dissimilarity to note it.

You were not lucky enough to find John Morten, Charles Smith, and James Carless at all?—No.

Or any man of the name of Orde?—No; of the name of *Ward*, Thomas Ward.

No *George* Biddulph?—No; *Thomas* Biddulph is the name which I have in the memorandum-book, but I found no such name in the poll. A man of the name of *George* Biddulph voted for Captain Gronow. The figure corresponded to the poll.

Cook and *Cork*, do you think that that is similar?—That is not on my notes. Mr. Austin put that question to me. I found the name of Cork. There is a difference there of the amount; the entry appears to be different of the amount given. The name of Charles Cook I have put down as not being able to find.

And so of Charles Jones?—Yes.

And so of George Dee?—No; George Day is put down, as there are the same initials, with the same money put down with George Day; and William Day in the same way.

You did not find Thomas Bullock anywhere, I believe?—No, I did not.

But he appears to have been paid; that is so represented in his book?—I have a figure opposite his name in the memorandum-book.

What induced you to put down *Everley* for *Ebberley*?—I think we know, from the corruptions that have taken place in languages, one is often substituted for the other, and in the mouth of a vulgar person I think they might be easily mistaken.

Was that the reason why you put down *Hamberton* for *Emberton*?—Yes; the only difference is between the *E* and the *Ha*; so that they might be mistaken easily.

Again, you do not find any person of the name of Thomas Fuller?—No, I do not.

Nor Furness?—No, except Furneyhough.

That is carrying your theory rather far, is it not?—Yes, it is.

If a man was put into a fiery *Furneyhough* you would think it rather an odd reading, would you not?—Yes.

You do not find anybody representing John Goddard, Joseph Forest, or George Greenwood?—No, I do not.

But there is a tick against them in the book of having received money?—Yes, there is.

And no Edward Greenwood?—No.

[*The Witness is directed to withdraw.*

Then *Charles Flint*, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Charles Flint.

Mr. *Rushton.*] DO you produce the freemen's roll of the poll?—I do.

And the registers?—And the three registers.

Put them in if you please?—(*The Witness delivered in the same.*) This is the ward list, which I apprehend you do not want; it is only for the purpose of electing the municipal corporations.

[*The Witness is directed to withdraw.*

Edwin Bostock.

17 June 1836.

Then *Edwin Bostock,* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a shoe manufacturer?—Yes.

Where do you reside?—At Northampton.

Did you formerly reside in Stafford?—I did.

How long have you removed from Stafford?—About six or seven months.

Were you a member of the committee of Captain Gronow at the last election? So far as it may be called a committee, I was.

When did Captain Gronow come to Stafford on the last election; previous to it?—I believe he did.

Do you remember on what day?—I do not.

Did he come alone?—No, he did not.

Who were with him?—I believe his brother.

Anybody else?—I do not recollect at this moment.

Was he in Stafford on the Sunday before the election?—I think he was

Had you any correspondence with Captain Gronow previous to his arrival?—Not any.

At whose house did he lodge?—Mr. Frith's.

Were you with Captain Gronow on the Sunday?—I cannot positively say.

Did you assist in the making of any seals on cards?—I did not.

Did you see any made?—I did not see any made.

Did you see any when they were made?—I believe I did.

Were those cards sealed?—They were.

Were they sealed with the arms of Captain Gronow, and with his crest?—They were sealed with some crest.

In whose possession did you see them?—I believe in the Rev. Mr. Gronow's possession.

Was that on the Sunday?—No; I believe on the Monday, if Monday was the first day of the poll.

Where did you see them?—I think at Mr. Frith's.

Did you go with Captain Gronow to the poll?—I did.

Did you see the tickets after that?—Yes, I did.

Were they then in the possession of the Rev. Mr. Gronow?—They were not; he gave them to me at Mr. Frith's house.

For what purpose did he give them to you?—He gave them to me to give to other parties.

How many booths were there in Stafford at the last election?—There were two polling places.

Did he give you any instructions at the time he gave you the sealed cards?—The instructions were given previously.

Tell me what those instructions were?—That those cards should be given to the burgesses after they had polled.

To whom did you give the cards?—I gave them to Mr. Wattwood.

What is his christian name?—Thomas.

Does he reside in Stafford?—He does.

At what booth was he stationed?—I cannot recollect.

Did you give them all to him?—Part of them.

To whom did you give the remainder?—To a person named Booth.

What is his christian name?—I cannot say.

What trade is he?—He is a clicker, and an assistant to a shoe manufacturer.

Does he reside in Stafford?—He does.

In what street?—I cannot say where he resides.

Did you divide the tickets in equal portions?—I believe I did.

How many did you give to Mr. Wattwood?—I should think I gave one-half to him, and the other to Booth.

How many?—I cannot say how many.

Did you not count them?—No.

Did you instruct Mr. Wattwood and Mr. Booth what to do with the tickets when you gave them?—I believe that they had their instructions at the time I had mine.

Were you present when they were instructed?—I cannot recollect that.

You

You say that you believe that they had their instructions when you had yours, do not you?—Yes.

What were those instructions?—That they should be given to the voters after they had polled.

Was any direction given as to plumpers or split votes?—I believe there was a distinction in the cards.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Did you hear that said at the time your instructions were given?—Yes, I did.

Mr. *Rushton.*] There was a difference in the cards, you say?—There was.

Large and small?—I cannot say what the difference was now, exactly.

Difference in the seals, perhaps?—I believe there was.

Were you told what amount they represented, or were to represent?—I cannot recollect that I was told that.

Do you know it?—By report.

Did you know at the time what the amount of the large seal and the small seal represented?—Yes.

What was it? Mr. *Whateley.*] Did you know it in any other way than by report? Mr. *Rushton.*] How did you know it; did you hear it from the gentleman who gave you the cards?—I believe I did.

What was it?—One ticket was to represent 3*l.*, and another 6*l.*, to the best of my recollection.

Did Mr. Wattwood and Mr. Booth attend at the polling-places?—They did.

Did you see them give any of the tickets?—Perhaps I might.

Describe in what manner it was done; did the voter come up, and give his vote?—He did; as soon as he came off the table the person stationed there gave him a ticket.

Either Mr. Wattwood or Mr. Booth?—Yes.

Do you know where those tickets were paid?—At Mr. Silvester's.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Did you see them paid?—No.

Mr. *Rushton.*] How do you know that they were paid?—I believe I took the young man there.

What young man?—A Mr. Roberts.

Where did you take him to?—To Mr. Silvester's.

In what street?—St. Martin's Lane.

Where did you place him there; in what room of the house?—I believe in a back room.

By a Lord.] Up stairs or down stairs?—Down stairs.

Mr. *Rushton.*] A back parlour was it?—Yes.

Did you give the person, whom you call Mr. Roberts, instructions as to the sum he should pay?—He had his instructions from Mr. Gronow, I believe.

Who introduced you to Mr. Roberts?—The Rev. Mr. Gronow, as far as I recollect.

Do you remember going to the bank in Stafford with that Mr. Roberts and any other person?—With Mr. Roberts and the Rev. Mr. Gronow.

What bank was that?—The Stafford branch of the Manchester and Liverpool District Bank.

Who is the cashier of that bank?—I cannot say.

Did you receive any money there, or Mr. Gronow in your presence?—Mr. Gronow did.

By whom was it paid?—By Mr. Birch, who is since dead.

Was he the only person belonging to the bank present?—I believe he was.

Had you the charge of any pecuniary arrangements on the account of Captain Gronow?—No further than this money was concerned; that was in the bank.

How much money was that?—I think it was 1,000 *l.*

Did Mr. Gronow give a check for it?—He drew it out.

Were you acquainted with the arrangements, previous to the election, on behalf of Captain Gronow?—I was not.

Were the voters canvassed?—I cannot say.

You did not assist in the canvass?—I did not.

Is it the practice for the voters to meet in any number at stated places?—At the public-houses they meet.

Did you attend any of those meetings on the occasion of the last election?—I think I did, one or two.

Can you name the places?—I cannot.

Edwin Bostock.

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Who was with you?—I cannot recollect that.
Was Captain Gronow with you?—I believe not; his brother, I believe, was.
What persons did you meet, if any, at those places?—I cannot say.
Did you meet any voters?—I believe we did.
Did you make any arrangements with those voters?—Not any.
As to their voting?—No.
Neither as to time nor as to money?—No.
Were any such made in your presence?—No.
Now I will ask you a general question, was the corruption of the last election for Stafford notorious?

Mr. *Whateley* objected to the question.
Mr. *Rushton* waived the question.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

I think I understood you to say that you cannot positively state how many of those tickets were given you?—I cannot.
Not even whereabouts how many?—No.
Of course therefore you cannot say within any near number how many were given to Wattwood and how many to Booth?—I cannot.
Can you say how many you saw given by Wattwood and Booth?—Altogether not more than from half a dozen to ten, I should say.
Did you know the persons to whom those were given?—I do not recollect that I did.
You cannot say therefore that they were electors?—Of course they must be electors.
Have you any recollection now who they were?—No, I have not.
Then you only draw that inference that you saw them given to certain persons, and therefore you think they were electors?—Yes, of course.
You went to the branch bank at Stafford?—Yes.
Was anything said at the time with regard to the 1,000*l.* that was so drawn out of that bank by Captain Gronow?—Nothing further than just taking it out.
Do you know from whence that 1,000*l.* came into the branch bank?—I do not.
Do you know of any transaction between Stephenson's Bank at Stafford and the Branch Bank at Stafford, with reference to that 1,000*l.*?—No.
Do you not know from Captain Grownow whence that 1,000*l.* came?—No.
Did you see any other payments made besides those that you have been speaking of to certain persons by Wattwood and Booth?—I saw no payments whatever.
Though you have left the town only five or six months, you were tolerably well acquainted with it previously?—I was.
Can you say whether the town is in a very improving condition?—Very much so.
Both as to the state of its population and as to the buildings, and in other respects?—I believe it is in a state of improvement, considerably.
The railway from Liverpool to Birmingham passes through it, I believe?—It does.
Is the population increasing also?—I believe it is.
Is it calculated that that railway will be of benefit to the town and its trade?—It is.
And be likely to increase its size?—I should conceive it would.
And its number of houses?—Yes.

Re-examined by Mr. *Rushton.*

I think you told me that those tickets were given after the men had voted on the table?—They were.
And from half a dozen to 10 instances occurred in your presence, is that so?—I believe so.
Though you cannot state how many tickets were given, how many do you think were given to you originally, before you divided them between Wattwood and Booth?—I cannot imagine the number.
Do you think there were 100 given to each?—Yes; more than that.
More than 100 given to each?—I think there might be.

Do you think there were 150 given to each?—I cannot speak to the number; I would rather not speak to the number; I might be mistaken.

There were a considerable number?—Yes.

Did you keep no account of those tickets representing 3 *l.* and 6 *l.* each?—No account.

Were they given you in a bundle?—In a box.

When you divided them between Wattwood and Booth, did you count them?—No.

Then you gave a handful to one and a handful to another?—Yes, I did.

In nearly equal proportions?—As far as I could judge.

Examined by the House.

Were you at Mr. Frith's in the evening of the Monday?—I think it was.

Was there anything said about the probable result of the election?—Yes.

Was anything said about the increase of the price of votes?—No.

Did you hear anything said about another party giving 8 *l.* for a vote that evening?—No.

You heard nothing of that sort?—No.

You have lately removed from Stafford?—Yes.

Had you resided at Stafford heretofore for a great length of time?—Seven or eight years.

Are you a master shoemaker?—Yes.

Has it not been the practice for the master shoemakers to consult their men previous to elections, with respect to their inclinations as to voting?—Yes.

Has it ever been the practice for anything to pass on those occasions between the master shoemakers and the men who were voters, with respect to the price of their votes?—No.

You never heard anything of that sort?—No.

Did you ever know a case of a master shoemaker receiving money, and distributing it among his men after the election?—No.

Did you never hear of such a thing?—No, never.

Were there never any arrangements between the master shoemakers and the men with respect to the part that they would take in election?—Yes.

Were you ever party to such an arrangement yourself with your men?—No arrangement. I have merely wished them to vote on a certain side frequently.

You have canvassed them on a certain side?—Partially.

Did you on the last election canvass them?—I did.

Did nothing pass about money?—No, not between master and men.

And you never in your life had any conversation with your men with respect to the price that they were to receive for their votes?—Not as men; not as workmen of mine.

As voters?—Yes, I have, sometimes.

Had you any such conversation previous to the last election?—No, I had not.

Previous to the election of 1832, had you?—I cannot state that.

How do you mean you cannot state that; do not you recollect?—No, I cannot.

Did you support Captain Gronow at the election of 1832?—Yes, I did.

Then you cannot state positively that you had not conversations with your men previous to the election of 1832, with respect to the money that they were to receive?—I cannot.

You cannot state, with respect to the election of 1835, that you had not?—Yes, I can.

At any election previous to 1832 had you such conversation with your men?—No.

Were you in business before 1832 as a master shoemaker?—I cannot say now whether I was in 1832.

We have heard of Bostock senior and Bostock junior; are you the junior or the senior?—The junior.

Your father is a master shoemaker too?—Yes.

Were you in Stafford in the election of 1826?—I was not.

In the election of 1832, the one before the last, were tickets given in the same way that tickets have been given upon this occasion?—Yes, in some instances.

Do you know the value of those tickets at the beginning of the election?—Yes; they were 2 *l.* 10 *s.* and 5 *l.*

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Do you recollect the circumstances of that election?—Yes, some of them.

In the course of the election did not the price of votes rise considerably?—Yes, they did.

How many days did that election last?—I think only two.

Do you recollect at what period of the election the votes began to rise in value?—About the middle of the last day, I believe.

To what price did they rise; do you recollect the different stages of rise?—I believe they rose as high as 8 *l.*

Not all at once, but at different stages?—Gradually.

Were you concerned in giving money for any of the tickets for those votes upon that occasion?—No, I was not.

But you are cognizant of the fact that they were paid for, and that a rise of price took place during the election?—Yes, I believe I am.

Did you see any money paid at that time?—No, I did not.

Did not some money pass through your hands at that election, relative to the election expenses?—I believe there did.

Did you not receive any money from Mr. Harding? I think I did.

A considerable sum, to the amount of 200 *l.* or 300 *l.*?—I cannot now state the sum.

What was the money expended for?—For treating.

Not for bribing?—No.

Who was Mr. Harding?—I cannot say.

Is he a Stafford man?—No; he came with Captain Gronow.

How many days before the election did he come?—I think only one day previous.

When was this money paid to you?—I cannot state that.

Was it before the election?—I think part of it was the day before.

When did this treating take place?—A day or two before, not after, the issuing of the writs.

You have been present at two or three elections in Stafford?—Yes.

Were you ever at any election yet where the price of votes at different periods of the election was not a matter of public notoriety?—Except the last election.

Except the last election, it was always very well known at all elections except the last?—I beg your pardon; I think it was not very well known at Sir John Campbell's election.

That was the election in 1832 or 1833?—Previous.

What is the christian name of Mr. Wattwood?—Thomas, I believe.

And Booth?—I cannot say.

Do you know Mr. Sylvester?—Yes.

What is his christian name?—Robert, the senior.

Junior?—William.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Do not you know that at the election of 1832 Mr. Hawkes stood as candidate, and polled many hundred votes, and never paid a shilling?—The common impression was, that he never paid a shilling.

By a Lord.] Do you remember how many votes he had?—I do not.

Do you remember who were the candidates in 1831?—Sir John Campbell, the present Sir John Campbell, Mr. Gisborne and Captain Hawkes.

Was it well understood at that time that Captain Hawkes did not pay any voter at that election?—Generally understood so; I believe he did not.

Was any promise made by any of his agents to pay?—I do not think there was.

Was there not an express declaration made upon the hustings, that he would not pay a single vote?—I cannot charge my memory with that.

Do you ever remember the bribery oath to be put in Stafford?—No, I do not.

Is it not generally agreed between the parties, that the bribery oath shall not be put?—I cannot say.

Were you ever cognizant of such an agreement?—No.

Did you ever hear that such an agreement was made at the election of 1832?—I cannot recollect.

You took an active part in that election of 1832, when Mr. Nixon and Mr. Harding were down?—Yes.

You canvassed for Captain Gronow?—I cannot remember whether I canvassed or not.

Did you persuade the voters to go and poll?—Yes.

Did

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Did you hold out any inducement to them, beyond the motive of patriotism, to go and poll?—I believe I did.

What was that inducement?—The voters there generally receive money after they voted.

Did you name any specific sum?—Yes.

What were the sums you named?—From 2*l.* 10*s.* to 4*l.* and 8*l.*

That was perfectly understood that that would be the price of the votes?—Yes.

Would there have been a contest had not Mr. Hawkes come down upon the occasion you mentioned just now?—I believe he was the third candidate.

Was he not brought down for the purpose of making the other two give money?—That I cannot say; he is a neighbouring gentleman.

Was he proposed for that purpose?—I should imagine not; I believe he came on independent principles. He contested the borough twice.

Was he ever returned?—No, not for Stafford.

Is he the member for Dudley?—Yes.

Did he live in the neighbourhood?—Yes.

Well known at Stafford?—I cannot say that, whether he was well known or not.

In your judgment, if he had paid as the others did, would he have had a good chance of being returned?—He would have been certain of being returned.

If he had paid?—Yes.

Was he not above eleven behind the other candidates?—His minority was very large.

You know the constituency of Stafford pretty well?—Yes.

From your knowledge of it, do you consider it a very corrupt constituency?—It has been so.

Do you mean, when you say that it has been, that you think that there has been any change taken place in their character?—I consider the last election as a proof that there has.

Do you think a candidate, whose principles and person were popular in the borough, would now have any chance, if he went down on an agreement to pay 2*l.* 10*s.* for a vote, against any candidate who promised to pay 10*l.* for a vote?—No, I do not think he would.

Do you think any man would have a chance, if he paid nothing at all for a vote, against those who paid?—I cannot say; Mr. Hawkes had a very large majority.

But you are not certain that he did not pay?—I am morally certain.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Sylvester* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

William Sylvester.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you live at Stafford?—I do.

What is your business there?—Currier.

Were you a partizan of Captain Gronow's at the last election?—Yes.

Do you remember Mr. Roberts being at Stafford at the last election?—No, I do not.

Do you know any young man who passed by that name?—I believe I saw a young man who passed by that name.

Where did you see him?—At Mr. Frith's house.

Were you introduced to him?—No.

Did you talk to him?—No.

Did you ever speak with him?—I cannot positively say that I did.

Were you in the room with him in Mr. Frith's house?—Yes.

How long?—About half an hour, I think.

On what day was that?—The day before the poll; I believe it was upon the Sunday evening.

Did you see him after that?—I saw him in the Assembly-room, near the Shire-hall, in Stafford.

Did you see him anywhere else upon the Monday?—No.

Was he at your house on the Monday?—I cannot say that he was; I was not in the house.

Do you know whether he was there, or was not?—I heard that he was there.

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Do you live with your father?—I do.

Have you not a house of your own?—No.

Is there a back room in your father's house?—Yes.

A parlour?—Yes.

Do you know whether anything particular took place in that parlour on Monday?—I heard something.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Were you there yourself?—I was not there.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you know whether he was there or not?—No, I do not.

Were you not at home during the whole day?—I left home in the morning at six o'clock.

And returned?—Not till evening.

At what hour in the evening?—Between 10 and 11 o'clock.

Was your father at home during the day?—He was not; he left in the morning.

He also was absent during the day?—Yes.

Who was in the house during the day?—There was Mrs. Sylvester during the day; I cannot pretend to say; I believe she was at home, but I cannot swear to it, of course.

By a Lord.] Do you mean your mother?—Yes.

Mr. *Austin.*] At what time did your father go out in the morning?—I cannot say.

Did you know that your father was going out in the morning when you went away?—No.

You did not know it?—No.

Did you know, from any conversation with him, that he intended to be absent during the day?—I did not.

Why did you leave your house so soon in the morning?—I was impressing upon the men that they would vote for Captain Gronow, and I was amongst the burgesses; it was requisite.

You were canvassing, were you?—Yes, I should say I was canvassing.

You were engaged about the election?—Yes.

During the whole day?—Yes.

You say you were present at Mr. Frith's on Sunday evening?—Yes.

Did you see any cards and sealing-wax there?—I did not.

Did you see any tickets?—I did not.

Did you ever see any?—No, I do not believe I did.

Were you at the poll?—I was not.

At any time?—No, not all the day.

Do you mean to say that you saw no tickets during the whole of the election?—I did not.

Do you know whether there were any tickets in existence during the election; had you any conversation with Captain Gronow?—I had not.

Nor with Mr. Gronow?—No.

Was there a committee for the conduct of the election?—There was no committee, I believe.

How was the election conducted?—I do not know.

Were you present at any meeting of persons who concerned themselves about Captain Gronow's election?—I was there after the poll.

Where?—At Mr. Frith's.

How many persons were there?—I cannot pretend to say.

About how many?—Seven or eight people in the room.

Was there any conversation among those persons?—Yes.

Was it about the conduct of Captain Gronow's election?—Yes, it was respecting the election.

Was it not about the conduct of Captain Gronow's election?—I cannot call to mind what it was about; we were talking of different elections.

And was not the conversation at that meeting concerning the election of Captain Gronow?—I cannot call to mind what it was about.

Do not you believe that those persons were talking together about the conduct of Captain Gronow's election?—I cannot say.

Do not you believe it?—I do not believe it.

Do not you believe that they were talking about the conduct of the election?—I cannot say.

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Do you or do you not believe it?—We were conversing respecting the election.

Were they or not conversing with respect to the conduct of the election?—No, they were not.

Did you meet those persons on the Monday night?—That was the first day's poll that I am alluding to.

Had you seen them on the Sunday night before?—Yes, I had been in the room on the Sunday night.

What room?—Mr. Frith's, on the Sunday night.

What did they meet about on the Sunday night?—I cannot say exactly; we called to take a glass of wine.

Was there any conversation on the Sunday night?—No, there was not; there was a conversation of course.

Was that about Captain Gronow's election?—Yes, it was about Captain Gronow's election.

Was it about the chance of success on the means of effecting the election?—Not the means of effecting the election.

What was it about? (*the Witness hesitated.*) What was the conversation about? (*the Witness hesitated.*) Will you answer the question?—I cannot call to mind; we were talking about different matters.

What do you believe it was about; do you or do you not believe that it was about the conduct of the election?—It was not about the means of effecting the election.

Was it about the conduct of the election?—I cannot say.

What do you believe about it; do you or do not you believe that it was about the conduct of the election?—It was about the election.

Was it about the conduct of the election?—No, it was not.

Will you swear it?—Yes, I will.

How came you to canvass on the Monday?—Because I felt anxious with respect to the return of Captain Gronow.

Did you communicate your intention to canvass to anybody?—I did not.

To no one whatever?—To no one.

Did anybody canvass besides yourself?—There were many people about.

Did anybody canvass beside yourself?—Yes, I believe there was.

Did you know that they were canvassing?—I believe that they were.

Did you know it at the time?—Yes, I believe they were.

Did you know it at the time?—Yes; I think I could say I knew it.

Have you any doubt that you knew it?—I have not much doubt about it.

What were their names?—I cannot call to mind their names, there were so many of them.

Recollect yourself; what were their names?—I cannot call to mind their names.

Were the persons whom you knew to be canvassing on that day persons whom you had seen to be at Mr. Frith's the night before?—Yes, there were some present.

Give us the names of some persons whom you had seen at Mr. Frith's the night before?—There were several of our townsmen there.

Do you live in Stafford now?—Yes.

And know the persons residing there?—Yes, I know some of them.

What were the names of the parties at Mr. Frith's?—My father was there for one.

Who else?—Mr. Bostock, I believe, was there.

The elder or younger?—Mr. Edward Bostock.

Is he the younger?—Yes, he is.

Who else?—Mr. Cellans, I believe, was there.

Who else?—I saw Mr. Jones there.

Is there more than one Mr. Jones?—Mr. Jones, senior.

Who else?—I do not know that I could mention any names.

Were those persons canvassing?—I cannot say. I did not see them.

You have told us that some of the persons whom you knew to be canvassing on Monday were present at Mr. Frith's on the Sunday night; were the persons whose names you have mentioned, any of the persons who were canvassing on the Monday?—I cannot positively say that they were.

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If not, tell us the names of other persons that were present on the Sunday night?—I cannot think of any other name that was there. I cannot enumerate any other names.

Now recollect yourself; inform the House of the name of a single person whom you knew to be canvassing; give us one name?—I believe that Mr. Frith was canvassing.

Another?—Mr. James Kingston was another.

Was he present on the Sunday night?—I cannot call to mind that he was not.

On Monday night?—I saw him there one of the nights.

Another name of the canvassers?—I cannot enumerate any other names.

Take time, you will recollect them?—I cannot mention any name.

How many persons canvassed, to your knowledge?—Two or three went round with Captain Gronow.

No more?—No. I do not know that I could enumerate any other.

You saw Roberts on the Sunday night?—Yes.

Do you know whether he was or was not a Stafford man in communication?—I know that he was not a Stafford man.

Was there any other stranger but himself present in that room?—No other stranger.

Were all the rest Stafford men?—I believe that they were.

And friends of Captain Gronow?—I believe that they were.

Did all the rest join in their conversation?—Yes.

Do you know what Roberts was there for?—I do not.

Did you know what he was there for at any time on the Sunday night?—I did not.

Recollect yourself, and answer that question again?—I did not.

Did you know on the Monday at any time what Roberts was there for?—I cannot say what he was there for.

Have you at any time since known what he was there for?—I have heard what he was there for.

Known it?—I cannot say that.

From whom have you heard it?—The people in the town have spoken about it.

Do you mean to say that you cannot name the person from whom you heard it?—No, I cannot indeed.

Were any questions asked on that Sunday as to why he was there?—No.

How many persons did you canvass?—I cannot say that.

About how many?—I cannot say, I am sure; I spoke to a many.

Did anything pass about money?—No.

Did anything pass during the whole course of the election about money?—No, I believe not.

Now remember yourself again; did anything pass about money during the whole election?—I believe not; I am not aware of anything of the kind.

Had you conversation with Captain Gronow during the election?—No, I had not.

Nor with Mr. Gronow?—No.

Had you any conversation with the other persons whom you have mentioned?—No, not respecting the means of effecting the election.

Had you any conversation with them about the election?—Yes.

Had you any conversation with any person about money during the election?—I had.

With whom had you any conversation about money?—A person of the name of Bostock.

Younger or elder?—Younger.

Was it money to be paid for votes?—I believe it was.

Have you any doubt of it?—I have no doubt about it.

Where did the conversation take place?—I believe it was in the market square.

On what day?—It was on the Monday.

At what time on the Monday?—About 11 o'clock.

In the morning?—Yes.

What was the conversation?—£. 20. was put into my possession.

By whom?—By a person of the name of Bostock.

The same person that you spoke of just now?—No.

What other person; what was his name?—A younger brother.

What

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What is the name of this younger brother?—Frederick Bostock.
Does he live at Stafford?—He did then.
Where is he now?—He is in Shrewsbury, I believe.
Does he live at Shrewsbury?—Yes, he does.
Did he live there then?—He did not.
What is he?—He is a shoe manufacturer.
For what purpose was that 20*l.* put into your hands?—I believe it was for voting.
Did the younger Mr. Bostock who gave you the money, give you any instructions with it?—Yes.
What were the instructions?—He said that four men would wait upon me with their names upon a piece of paper, and I was to present them with 5*l.* each.
Did the four men wait upon you?—They did.
At what time of the day?—One o'clock, I think; I cannot exactly say to an hour.
Did they produce any paper?—Yes.
What sort of paper?—It was a small slip of paper with their names written in black lead upon it.
In whose handwriting was the black lead?—Well, I did not observe at that time; I cannot say.
Have you got the papers?—I have not.
What became of them?—I dare say I tore it up and threw it down.
Did you pay the money to them? I did.
Do you know the names of those men?—I cannot remember the names.
Did you know them at the time?—Yes, I believe I knew them at the time.
Were they voters?—Yes, I believe they were.
Do you know how they voted?—It was upon the paper how they voted.
For whom was it mentioned they had voted upon that paper;—For Captain Gronow.
For him alone, or for any other?—For him alone.
Do you mean to say that you have totally forgotten the names of those four persons?—I could mention one.
What is his name?—Baites.
Christian name?—I cannot remember his Christian name.
Did you know him before?—Yes.
And know him now?—Yes, I know him now.
Remember the names of one of the three others?—I cannot remember the names.
Did you know them at the time?—I did not know them personally.
Were they freemen or householders?—I believe they were freemen.
All four?—I cannot say that.
You say you were present on the Monday evening?—Yes.
Did you hear any conversation on the Monday evening?—Yes.
Did you hear any conversation about money?—I did not.
Did you hear any conversation about money at any other time?—No, I did not.
Were you aware that bribery was going on at the time when the 20*l.* was brought you?—I was told that such was going on.
Were you surprised when the money was brought you?—I was.
Did you make any objection to distributing the money as you were directed?—I made a slight objection.
Which was soon overcome?—Not easily overcome.
But was ultimately overcome?—Yes.
Had you at that time heard that bribery was going on?—I had.
Had you heard the price of votes?—No, I had not.
Whether they were rising or falling?—I had not.
Did you hear at any time what the price of votes was?—Yes.
At what time did you hear the price?—It was in the forenoon.
How early?—About 11 o'clock.
What was the price then?—I was told that 3*l.* they were giving for one vote.
Did the price rise or fall in the course of the day?—It continued, I believe, the same all day.
Did it leave off at that rate?—Yes, I believe it did.

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Did you hear that?—I heard that.

Do you mean to say that you did not hear any conversation about bribery at either of the meetings that you mention?—I did not.

Where did you hear about the price of votes?—In the streets.

From whom?—From men that came up to me.

Voters or not?—They might be voters, or they might not be voters.

If not voters, were they persons managing the election?—I cannot say, I am sure; they were most likely voters.

Do you know how they voted?—No, I do not.

Were there any colours worn during the last election?—I believe not.

Had you any means of ascertaining whether the parties from whom you heard this account voted for one candidate or the other?—I could not say till the poll book was printed how they voted.

Did you know how they voted?—From the poll book, in no other way, which was printed after the election.

From how many persons might you hear this intelligence?—I cannot say.

Did they vote all on one side, or not?—I cannot say.

You have told us just now that you knew how they voted from the poll book; did they vote all on one side, or not?

Mr. *Whateley* objected to the question, and contended that the poll book must be referred to.

Mr. *Austin* contended that the question was admissible.

The Counsel were informed that the poll book must be referred to.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you remember the names of any of the persons whom you speak of, the persons whom you met in the streets, and who informed you of bribery?—I cannot remember the names.

Did they inform you for whom they had voted?—No, they did not.

Did you inquire?—No, I do not remember that I did; very likely some had never voted at that time.

Did you make the inquiry, or did they make the inquiry of you, as to the price of the votes?—They made the inquiry of me.

What were the inquiries they made?—They asked me what was giving.

What answer did you make to that inquiry?—I said I was informed that they were giving 3 *l.* and 6 *l.*

Was that the answer you gave upon all occasions?—Yes.

How late in the day were those questions put to you?—Till about two or three o'clock in the afternoon.

Were you engaged on the second day of the election?—I was about.

Were you canvassing?—Yes.

Did you hear inquiries as to the price of votes on the second day?—I did not.

How many persons might you have canvassed on the second day?—I cannot say; I spoke to a many.

Did you hear any other sums mentioned than those which you have mentioned already?—I did not.

£. 3 and 6 *l.*?—Yes, 3 *l.* and 6 *l.*

Did you mention this conversation yourself to any other persons?—No, I did not.

Was that 20 *l.* the only sum of money that you distributed?—It was.

You distributed no more?—No more.

Were you present at the distribution of any further sums?—I was not.

Do you know of any other sums having been distributed?—I do not.

Was it generally the talk in the town on the first day, that 3 *l.* and 6 *l.* was the price of the vote?—It was.

To your knowledge?—I was informed that that was what it was; of my own knowledge I cannot say.

I ask you whether it was the common talk that that was the price?—It was.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Were you known at the time as Captain Gronow's agent, as one of his friends?—I was one of his friends.

A friend who had taken a very great interest in all the elections at Stafford?—It was the first time I had interfered.

Were you known as one of the friends and partizans of Captain Gronow?—Yes, I was.

When

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When you say that the price was 3 *l.* and 6 *l.*, are you referring to Captain Gronow's friends that it was talked of?—Yes.

That Captain Gronow at that time had been giving to some persons 6 *l.* as plumpers, and 3 *l.* for split votes;—Yes.

Is what you mean by saying that that was the talk about what was giving for votes, that Captain Gronow was giving 6 *l.* and 3 *l.*?—Yes.

Do you of your own knowledge know of any money at all having been given?—No further than the 20 *l.* I have mentioned.

You say certain persons inquired of you what was the price of votes; were those voters of Captain Gronow's?—I cannot say whether they were or were not.

You do not remember at this time?—I do not.

Do you know any person who ever talked with you of the price of votes that did not talk to you as an agent and partizan of Captain Gronow?—I cannot say.

Was Captain Gronow's brother taking an active part in this election?—I believe he was.

Did you see him there?—I saw him at the election in the streets.

And in the committee-room, in Frith's room?—Yes, I believe he was there.

Was he there on the Sunday night and on the Monday night?—He was there one of the nights; I cannot say whether he was there on both the nights.

Do you know where he lives now?—I cannot say.

Were you acquainted with him before?—No, I was not.

He is not dead, to your knowledge?—He is not dead, to my knowledge.

Was the only conversation you ever heard from anybody, or the only observation of the price of votes, about one o'clock on Monday, in the market place?—That was about the time.

And the place?—And the place.

Did you ever hear, except upon that occasion, the time and the place, any other conversation respecting the price of votes?—I did not.

Nor with any other persons?—No.

Was that the time when you were canvassing the votes for Captain Gronow?—It was.

Canvassing in the market place?—Yes.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

You told me in your examination in chief, that you had conversation about the money at 11 in the morning?—About 11, I think.

You told me that the price of votes remained the same the whole day?—I believe they did.

What was the latest intelligence you had of the price of votes?—One or two o'clock, I believe.

What was the earliest?—About 11 o'clock in the morning.

Then you heard the amount of the price from eleven till one or two o'clock?—I did.

Is that the conversation you described as being general throughout the town?—Yes, with those that I spoke to upon the subject.

By a Lord.] You paid 5 *l.* to four voters?—Yes.

And you only recollected the name of one, Bates?—Yes.

You said afterwards that you knew how others had voted by the poll book?—Yes.

How did you know how they had voted by the poll book unless you knew their names?—I knew the names of some.

What were the names; Bates was one; there were three others?—I cannot remember the other names.

How did you know it by the poll book if you did not know their names?—I could tell if I saw the name on the poll book.

If you saw the poll book you would fix on some names?—I think I should know the name if I heard it mentioned, but I cannot call to mind what the names were; I knew them at the time.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off to Monday next at three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Lunæ, 20° Junii 1836.

THE Order of the Day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford in the county of Stafford from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for Witnesses to be examined in proof of the Preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their Counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their petition;

Counsel were accordingly called in.

Then *Robert Sylvester* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Robert Sylvester.
20 June 1836.

Mr. *Rushton.*] IS your name Robert Sylvester?—Yes.

Where do you reside?—Stafford.

What are you?—Currier and leather-cutter.

Were you in Stafford at the time of the last election?—I was.

Did you attend the poll on that occasion?—I did.

Were you fixed at one booth, or did you attend both?—I was backwards and forwards.

Where were the booths?—In the Crown Court and in the Nisi Prius Court.

Did you represent any person at either of the booths?—No.

In what capacity did you attend?—Merely as a spectator, being one of Mr. Gronow's friends.

Did you see the persons vote?—Many of them.

Did you see anything given to them after they had voted?—No, nothing.

Did you see any tickets given?—I did not; I was by the side of the candidates.

Did you know a person who passed by the name of Roberts?—I saw him; but I did not know what his name was.

Was he called Roberts?—Yes.

Was he at your house?—Not that I know of; I never saw him there.

Were you in the back parlour of your house on the morning of the first day of the election?—I was not; I did not breakfast at home on that morning, and I did not come into our house until the polling was over.

How were you occupied that day?—I was merely looking on.

Did you canvass?—I went round before the election, but not on that day.

Were you intrusted with any money arrangements?—I was not; excepting that I received 6*l.* afterwards to pay some special constables that were sworn in for Mr. Gronow.

Excepting that you had no pecuniary arrangement intrusted to you?—Not a shilling.

Do you know Mr. Frith?—I do.

Were you at his house on the Sunday before the election?—Yes.

In the evening?—Yes.

Who were present?—Mr. Jones.

Both the Mr. Jones's?—Yes; I think the elder one and Mr. William; I am not quite certain whether Mr. Joseph was there.

Any other persons?—I am not sure I could say.

Was Mr. Frith himself there?—Yes; there were many backwards and forwards.

Was the person whom you call Roberts there?—Yes, in and out; he did not sit down while I was there; I thought he was a servant, or something of that kind.

For what purpose did you meet there?—They were talking over the election.

As to the mode of conducting it?—While I was there the conversation ran chiefly whether Mr. Gronow was likely to be returned; to what state he would come up. We thought it a matter of doubt; we thought he had a great deal to contend with.

Was any conversation held on that occasion as to the mode in which the election ought to be conducted?—No, sir. It was a promiscuous meeting; it was no committee meeting.

Was anything said about money on that occasion?—Not in my presence.

Was anything said about the canvass?—I do not recollect.

I think

Robert Sylvester.

20 June 1836.

I think you told me just now you had canvassed previously to the election?—Yes.

This was on the Sunday night before?—No, sir. I was sometimes with Mr. Gronow, and sometimes with his brother.

By a Lord.] Were you present during the whole of that meeting?—No, I was not.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Did anything pass while you were present as to the result of the canvass?—Only what I have mentioned; that it was a matter of doubt whether he would be returned.

Was anything said as to what the men expected?—Not in my presence; I was only there but a short time.

Did you yourself not say anything on the subject?—I have no recollection whatever.

Nothing passed on the subject in your presence?—I do not recollect anything on money matters.

Do you know Charles Morriss of the Vine Tavern?—Yes.

Was he present?—I think not.

Was he active during the election?—I cannot tell. He was of the other party; he was connected with Goodricke's party. I never saw him, to the best of my knowledge, at Mr. Frith's.

You tell me you went out at six o'clock on that morning?—Yes, I think it was.

On Monday morning?—Earlier than that.

Where did you go to?—I went to Frith's to breakfast, and to make arrangements about the special constables, where they were to have their breakfast.

Did you make any arrangement between the time you went out and the opening of the poll, where they were to come to vote?—No.

Did you see any at Frith's?—I was in and out.

Did you see any people assembled at Frith's that morning?—I was not at all engaged.

Did you see any voters at Frith's that morning?—I do not recollect, though there is no doubt there were some in and out.

Did you stay there till the opening of the poll?—No, I did not.

Where did you go afterwards?—I went to make arrangements where the special constables were to have their breakfast; that took a good deal of time up.

Where did you go afterwards?—I went into the hall.

Did you go nowhere except to Frith's between six in the morning and the opening of the poll?—To these public-houses, arranging about where the constables were to go to breakfast; three or four different public-houses.

Nobody but the constables?—Nobody but the constables.

Do you know what ticket money means at Stafford?—I have heard of it.

Was any ticket money given on that occasion by you?—I heard of it; but there was none given by me, in no way whatever.

You have told me you have heard of somebody being at your house on that day?—Yes.

When did you first hear of that?—I should think it was far on in the day.

Where were you when you heard of it?—In the hall.

In the hall of the county?—Yes.

Were the polling booths there?—Yes.

Who informed you?—I think it was Mr. Passman.

What did he say?—He said, "I have heard there is something going on at your house about Gronow's affairs." I said, "I know nothing at all about it."

Were those the words he used?—Yes.

Did he say there were payments being made at your house?—I cannot say.

Was Mr. Passman on the side of Mr. Gronow?—I do not know.

When you received that information did you go home?—No; I never was out of court.

Was Roberts there with your knowledge and approbation?—No, I never consented.

When you received this extraordinary information, did you not think it your duty to go and ascertain whether it was true or not?—I ought, perhaps, to have gone, but I did not go.

When did you return to your house on that day?—Not till the polling was over.

Robert Sylvester.

20 June 1836.

Did you find Mr. Roberts there then?—No.

Did you go into the back parlour?—Yes; there was none there but my own family.

How many sons have you?—One; he was not at home when I went in. I saw we were losing, and took little notice of it.

At those public-houses you have mentioned, did you make arrangements for no other person but special constables?—I did not.

How many special constables did you order breakfast for?—Perhaps about 60, at three or four houses.

Were those special constables voters?—I cannot tell; some of them were; I am not certain; I did not know them.

Answer me this; did you not know that the men whom you ordered breakfast for on that morning were voters?—Some of them were, I dare say; at that time there were others sworn in that were.

I ask whether the persons for whom you ordered breakfast on that morning were not voters?—I should think they mostly were.

Did you not know it when you ordered breakfast for them?—Yes, I mostly knew them.

Have you the slightest doubt?—I believe many of them must have been voters.

Did you not know that they were voters on ordering the breakfast?—I believe some of them were not burgesses.

But the mass of them were?—Yes.

You knew that when you ordered breakfast?—Yes.

You are perfectly aware you are on your oath?—Yes; I do not wish to deviate.

How many public houses did you go to to order their refreshments?—I think three.

Tell me the names?—One of the name of Fallows, the sign of the Crispin; and a person of the name of Hollis, that keeps the Duke of York; and the other man's name was Mottram, that keeps the Fountain.

Were those the only three places?—I am sure I cannot say; I do not know whether there was three or four.

Where was the fourth?—I cannot recollect.

Did you go to a fourth?—I will endeavour to recollect; I do not recollect any others but three.

Had you a certain district of the borough appropriated to you?—I had not.

Did you undertake to visit these houses on the Sunday night?—No, Sir.

Did you go to them in obedience to any arrangements made previously?—No; I did not go to Frith's till eight o'clock.

Where did you meet with the persons whom you ordered breakfast for?—They were ordered to attend on Monday morning; the constables were at Frith's.

You told me that the mass of these men for whom you ordered refreshments were voters?—Yes.

Where did you make the arrangement with these men to come to breakfast?—I really cannot say, upon my oath.

Try to remember?—Many of them I met promiscuously; I had them on a list where they were to go and get their breakfast.

What list?—They were sworn in as constables.

Where did you get that list?—I cannot tell.

Did you make it out yourself?—No.

Who gave it to you?—I cannot charge my memory at present.

I will trouble you to remember?—I did not choose them.

Who gave you the lists?—I cannot recollect at present.

Did you receive them from more than one person?—I cannot tell.

You do not know where you found the list?—No, I do not.

Can you tell me when you got the list?—No; I cannot tell whether I had it on Sabbath night or Monday morning.

Will you swear that you did not get those lists at this meeting at Mr. Frith's?—I could not say that I did.

Will you swear that you did not?—I could not swear.

What do you believe about it?—I think it is most likely I got it at Frith's, but I cannot recollect where I had it; I did not think it was of any consequence.

Who gave it to you at Frith's?—I cannot say.

Was it one of the Jones's?—I do not recollect.

Robert Sylvester.
20 June 1836.

Was it Frith?—I would tell you if I knew.

Your memory improves as we go on. Was it one of the Jones's?—I cannot say on my oath.

Was it Roberts?—No; I should have known him.

Was it Frith himself?—I do not recollect.

Will you swear it was not Frith?—I could not swear who it was.

To the best of your belief did not Frith give you those lists?—I have no recollection; he might.

Have you any doubt at all that he did?—I have a doubt.

Why do you doubt it?—Because I cannot recollect any person in particular that I was with.

You were in the parlour with these persons you have named; in some part of the house?—Yes; I was backwards and forwards.

You have said that you might have got the list on that occasion?—Yes.

Now tell me who might have given it to you?—I cannot say; my business was——

I do not ask you your business; try to remember who gave you those lists?—I cannot, unless you give me some other time to think of it; I did not think it was a matter of any moment.

Just think over the parties who were there, and try if you can remember who gave you those lists?—I can scarcely tell who was there.

Were any of those persons you have mentioned the parties who gave you the lists of voters?—Yes, they were all voters.

Did any of the parties you have mentioned as present at Frith's give you the list of voters?—Of the constables?

Of the voters?—Of the special constables?

I call them voters; I want to get at the fact, who gave you those lists?—I cannot tell.

You swear you do not remember?—No, I do not.

You got them at Frith's?—(*No answer.*)

By a Lord.] What became of the lists?—I cannot tell.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Did you keep them?—No; I have no papers whatever.

Were lists given to any other persons but yourself at Frith's?—I cannot tell.

Did the Jones's get lists?—Except Mr. William Jones, the elder one.

Did he get a list?—I know he had something to do with the constables; that makes me think he had a list.

Did he get any list at Frith's that night that you got yours?—I have no recollection.

Why did you tell me you thought he had?—Because he had a list, I understood, of the special constables.

Did you see him with the list?—I do not recollect seeing him.

Were they lying on the table at Frith's?—I do not recollect seeing them on the table.

Was any account kept of them?—No.

No account whatever?—No; I did not think it was of moment about the constables.

Now, having refreshed your memory on some of these points, I ask you again whether the conversation with Frith did not relate to the mode in which the election ought to be conducted?—No.

Nor anything to that effect?—No; I should have recollected that; I did not take that active part in it.

Did you give the orders to the public-houses in writing?—Yes, I think I did; they were to have refreshments at 1*s.* a head.

Is that all?—Nothing more; they were to have a breakfast to the amount of 1*s.*

Was that all you gave, during the election, in that way?—Yes, everything; I had nothing to do with things of that kind, not in Mr. Gronow's election.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

On what day did Captain Gronow leave your house?—He was not at our house.

On what day did he leave Stafford?—On the second morning of the election day he left it, while I was in court; when I came out I understood he was gone.

Robert Sylvester.

20 June 1836.

Did his brother go with him?—I understood they went together.

Have you seen his brother since?—No, I have not.

You have no reason to think he is not alive?—No.

You have not heard of his death?—No, I have not; I have had no communication with him.

Do you know whether Captain Gronow took several hundreds away with him?—Yes, I heard it, that he had taken several hundreds; that was the current conversation in the town.

Examined by the House.

You said just now, that all you had ordered for these special constables was 1 *s.* a head; there were 60 men, and only 1 *s.* a head?—Yes.

And that was all you had to do with the distributing of money?—Yes.

That comes to 3 *l.*; 60 shillings?—Yes; but they had 5 *s.* a day besides.

How much did you pay?—4 *s.* or 5 *s.* for their day's work, and their breakfast.

That would come to four times 25?—Yes; I think I paid about 7 *l.* or 8 *l.* away.

Was it 6 *l.* or 7 *l.* or 8 *l.*?—I should think from 7 *l.* 10 *s.* to 8 *l.*

Do you not know exactly, or do you know exactly, because you said 6 *l.* was the amount paid away?—It was from 6 *l.* to 8 *l.*; I made no memorandum.

You did pay more than 6 *l.*?—It was from 6 *l.* to 8 *l.*; I made no memorandum of it, I thought it was so trifling a concern.

Are you a voter for Stafford?—Yes.

Did you vote?—Yes.

For whom?—Captain Gronow and Sir Charles Wolseley.

You heard nothing of any money given for votes?—There was a talk of it; I never paid any, nor saw any paid, nor received any money myself.

Where is Captain Gronow now?—He is abroad, I have heard; I have not seen him since that time.

When did he go abroad?—I have heard he was on the continent, both him and his brother.

Have they not gone abroad very lately?—I cannot tell; I heard of it a few months ago.

Is it the current conversation that money was given?—Yes, it was the talk; I do not think there was much passed.

Perhaps that was the reason he lost his election?—I know many that had nothing for their voting as well as myself.

Have you lived long at Stafford?—Yes.

Have you been present at former elections?—Yes.

Was there a conversation then about money?—Sometimes not.

Generally there was payment?—There was more talk than what was true.

A great deal was true, too?—Yes, no doubt about it.

You have never known any truth in it yourself?—No; I know persons have voted for principle.

When the people heard that Captain Gronow had gone out of town, it had an effect on the poll?—Many people came and voted the next day, poor men, who came and voted a plumper.

Were you ever at contested elections at other boroughs in England?—Only at Stafford.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Thomas Watwood was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Thomas Watwood.

Mr. *Austin.*] WHAT is your business?—A shoe manufacturer.

Where do you live?—At Stafford.

Are you a master manufacturer or not?—Yes.

Do you employ many men?—Yes.

How many?—Perhaps, men and women and boys altogether, they are mixed in our trade, about 100.

Are you a voter yourself?—Yes.

Whom did you vote for at the last election?—Gronow and Sir Charles Wolseley.

Were you at the town-hall during any time?—Some part of the time.

Were

Were you there on the first day?—Some part of the first day.

What day of the week was the first day?—Monday.

What part of the day were you there?—Various times.

Were you there in the morning?—Some part of it.

Were you there when the candidates were proposed?—I was not.

Were you there when the poll began?—Not exactly when it commenced.

Which booth were you in?—The Nisi Prius booth.

The polling was held in two courts?—Yes.

How long were you there before the polling began?—Perhaps half an hour, rather more.

Are you sure of that?—Yes.

Did you know how many people had voted before you went into the booth?—I cannot say.

Did you know the state of the poll at the time you went into the booth?—I did not.

How many tickets did you give the first day?—Yes.

You did give tickets?—A few.

What sort of tickets?—They were small scraps of paper with a small seal upon them.

Were there any with the larger seal upon them?—Yes, a few.

Do you know what those tickets were to represent?—I never asked what they were to represent, and I never was told.

Do you happen to know what was meant by the larger and smaller seal?—The larger seal was for the plumpers, and the smaller one for split votes.

How much do you guess a man got for his plumper?—I cannot say.

For split votes?—I cannot say.

How many did you deliver?—I cannot say.

Where did you get the tickets yourself?—From Mr. Bostock.

Which?—Edwin.

Where did you get them?—In the grand jury room.

Were you alone when they were given to you?—No; several others were by.

Who was there?—Mr. Sylvester the younger was one.

Are you sure of that?—I cannot exactly say, but I believe he was.

You believe Mr. Sylvester the younger was there?—I cannot positively say.

You recollect?—I cannot recollect whether he was there or not.

Give us the name of some other person, besides Mr. Sylvester the younger, who was there?—There was Edwin Bostock I recollect being there very well; and a young man, I do not know who he was, from London.

Was that Roberts?—Yes; the others, I cannot say who there was.

How many others were there?—Perhaps half a dozen.

Will you swear there was half a dozen?—I will not.

Will you swear there were two others?—Yes.

What were their names?—Bostock and Sylvester.

Besides the three persons whose names you have mentioned, Bostock the younger, Sylvester the younger, and Roberts, will you swear there were two others present?—Yes.

Will you swear there were two others present?—I will not swear it.

Will you swear there was one other present; now mind, I do not ask you his name?—I should think there was; I should not like to swear it without I knew the person by name.

Now tell us who gave you the tickets?—Edwin Bostock.

That you are clear about?—Yes.

How did he bring them?—I think they were in a paper box.

Did you see how many he had?—I could not see.

Do you know William Booth?—Yes.

Did he not distribute tickets in the other booth?—No.

Was he present?—No, he was not.

Were the tickets that were given to you the whole contents of the box, or were some left in the box?—I had very few.

Some were left in the box?—Yes, many.

Can you tell about how many?—I could not.

Had you any conversation at the time you received the tickets?—No, I believe not; except it was to give them to those that voted.

Thomas Watwood.

20 June 1836.

Now, tell their Lordships what the instructions were?—Single voters were to have the large seal, the split votes the small one.

At what time were you directed to give tickets to the voters?—When I knew they had voted; when I was certain they had voted.

Did you obey this instruction?—In part I did.

How many tickets did you give in disobedience of the instructions?—I cannot say.

About how many?—I cannot say.

What was the disobedience to the instruction, if any?—None particularly.

Do you know what the question means?—Yes.

Did you give any tickets before the persons voted?—Not that I am aware of.

All the tickets you gave were after the persons voted?—I believe they were.

Did you know the persons had voted when you gave the tickets?—Some of them I know had voted.

How do you know the others had or had not voted?—I was told by some other party that they had voted.

Do you mean to say that persons were brought up, and that a representation was made to you that they had voted, and thereupon you gave them a ticket?—Yes.

In how many instances did that occur?—I cannot say.

About how many?—I cannot say.

How long did you stay at the poll?—Perhaps an hour, or more.

How many tickets did you give?—I cannot say the exact number.

About how many?—I cannot tell.

Did you give 10 or 100?—Neither 10 nor 100.

What did you give?—I cannot say.

About what number?—I cannot tell.

Where did you go to at the end of the first hour?—To the market-place for a little refreshment.

How long did you stay?—About a quarter of an hour or 20 minutes.

Whom did you leave in your place?—I cannot say.

How many did you deliver in that hour?—I cannot say.

Was it 10 or 100?—I cannot say.

By a Lord.] Cannot you tell whether it was 10 or 100?—I cannot.

Perhaps if you were informed that you will not get your certificate you could recollect?—I would not swear it without I really was positive.

How many do you think?—I cannot speak to it.

Mr. *Austin.*] Did you deliver 10 in the whole day?—More.

A hundred?—No, sir, nor half a hundred.

Will you swear that you did not deliver 50?—I never noticed how many I had.

Did you know the persons by name to whom you gave the tickets?—I should think I could recollect very few of their names.

Did you know them by name?—Some of them.

Did you know them by person?—Some few I did.

Mention the names of some parties to whom you gave the tickets?—I can hardly recollect.

You went there half an hour after the poll began; what was the name of the first person to whom you gave a ticket?—That I cannot say; I recollect a person of the name of Smith.

What was his Christian name?—I do not know.

Did you give him a great seal or small one?—A great one.

What is the next man whose name you recollect?—A person of the name of Shenton.

What is his Christian name?—I cannot recollect; I cannot recollect whether Stephen or John.

What seal did you give him?—His was a large one.

Now remember some further names, and state what their names were?—I cannot recollect scarcely any of them.

Try and recollect one?—I really cannot recollect.

Who else?—I am sure I could not pick them out.

Do you mean to say you cannot recollect the name of another voter to whom you gave a seal?—I cannot at the present moment.

Do

Do you know for what purpose you were summoned to give evidence in London?—Yes. *Thomas Watwood.*

Did you turn the matter over before you came to the bar?—I have given it no thought scarcely. 20 June 1836.

Now, try to recollect and tell us some other name; how long have you lived in Stafford?—I live in Macclesfield; I lived in Stafford five years.

Did you know people in Stafford pretty well?—Some of them.

Now, try and mention a third name to whom you gave a ticket?—I am sure I could not recollect scarcely any one.

By a Lord.] Do you mean to say you knew only about three names out of fifty?—I knew more, but I cannot recollect; there were more that I knew, but I cannot at the moment recollect their names.

Come, you have been thinking of it?—(*No answer.*)

You would not have been employed to distribute tickets if you had not known people generally?—(*No answer,*)

Mr. *Austin.*] Shenton and Smith you recollect?—Yes, I recollect them, because they kicked up a noise.

Can you recollect no others?—There were two or three of the Shentons.

Now, try and recollect?—I think there was another of the name of Bowers, but I am not quite certain.

Was there any besides Bowers?—There were more, if I could recollect their names.

Try and recollect their names?—If I could see a list of them perhaps I might.

Had you any conversation with the men, or any of them?—Not any.

By a Lord.] Did you give all the tickets you received in the morning?—No, my Lord.

Mr. *Austin.*] How many had you remaining at the end of the first day?—I only gave them a part.

How many had you remaining?—Fifty, perhaps.

Who did you give them to?—To Roberts and Bostock; perhaps I had 100 remaining.

You will not swear that you had not distributed fifty?—I should think I had not.

By a Lord.] Did you give any account of how many you delivered?—No, my Lord.

You gave no account of those delivered at all?—I never was asked to give any account.

Mr. *Austin.*] You swear you had no conversation with the voters when you delivered the tickets?—Neither then nor before.

By a Lord.] Did you ask whether they had voted?—I saw some of them vote.

If they did not vote, you asked whether they had voted before you gave a ticket?—I was told they had voted.

Where were you when they were brought to you for the tickets?—In some part of the hall I was the chiefest part of the day.

Mr. *Austin.*] Give us the name of some persons who brought up any of the voters?—I could not say; they came up six or seven at a time.

Will you swear that you cannot recollect the name of a single person who brought up a voter to you?—I cannot recollect one.

Will you swear that?—Yes.

Was anybody by you at the time of the delivery during the whole day?—Plenty; scores. Elections are generally all of an uproar.

Mention one?—I could not.

Mention the name of some person who was there, besides you, during the delivery of the tickets any part of the first day?—I do not know that there was anybody that saw me deliver the tickets; there stood plenty about me.

Did you deliver them secretly or openly?—Secretly.

By a Lord.] Were you ordered not to deliver the tickets, unless the persons you saw had voted?—Except I saw them, or I was convinced they had voted.

How were you to be convinced?—By those persons bringing them.

Who were the persons?—There were plenty I could trust.

Name any one of them?—I could not recollect.

Remember you are on your oath, and you will not be entitled to your protection unless you swear to the satisfaction of my Lords. Do you mean to say that you

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you cannot recollect any one person who communicated to you the persons who had voted?—I really could not swear who they were.

Can you give a guess; let us go by degrees?—I could not really; I have never given a thought of it since.

Mr. *Austin.*] Were the persons who came to you, persons concerned in the election at Stafford?—Not particularly; only acquaintances of the men who voted; but I delivered the chief of them at the table as they voted in the hall.

Were you seated at the table or standing there?—I was standing there.

Standing alone?—Yes, except persons round about me.

Where were the tickets at that time?—I had them in my pocket.

How did the voters know to come to you for the tickets?—I suppose they had been told.

You mean to say you had no other knowledge how they came to apply to you for their costs?—Not to my knowledge.

After they had given their votes did they come and ask for a ticket?—Yes.

What was their way?—I chiefly saw them vote, except in a few instances.

Did you see Shenton vote?—Yes.

What did Shenton say to you when he came?—He came and asked for a ticket, and said he had voted for Captain Gronow.

And thereupon you gave him a ticket?—Yes.

Is that all that passed between you?—Yes; I was not asked any questions by any one of them, excepting for a ticket.

They all knew how to come to you?—Yes.

Did they apply to anybody else round the table for a ticket?—No.

They all came to you at once, and you gave them a ticket?—Yes.

Do you know where they went to?—I believe they went to Mr. Sylvester's.

Where did you hear that intelligence?—I was told in the hall.

By whom were you told in the hall that they went to Mr. Sylvester's?—It was soon noised about.

Was it soon noised about that you were giving tickets?—Yes.

Was it notorious that you were giving tickets?—It was very soon known.

And also that they were to be paid at Sylvester's?—No doubt of that.

Were the prices known?—I cannot say.

Were not the prices notorious?—Not till they went to receive the money.

In the course of the first day's polling were not the prices notorious?—I suppose they were well known.

Have you any doubt of it?—I have not.

By a Lord.] Did you know the price?—I was told; it was soon talked of.

Mr. *Austin.*] Were you told by many persons?—I only heard it by conversation round about me.

Was that of a general nature, that conversation?—Yes.

Was that at the poll?—Yes.

By a Lord.] The price of Captain Gronow, or all the tickets?—All the tickets.

Gronow's only?—I did not know of any other.

Was there any other person besides yourself distributing tickets for Captain Gronow in the hall?—I understood there was.

Was there more than one other?—I should think not; I cannot say.

Can you say who it was?—Booth.

Who was distributing also tickets for Captain Gronow?—Yes.

How could you know when a person was brought to you as having voted that he did not get a ticket from Booth also?—I could not say.

Did not Booth give in the other hall?—Yes.

In the court in which you distributed, was there any person who distributed tickets for Captain Gronow besides yourself?—I did not see anybody; other persons had tickets in possession as well as me.

What security had you, if another person was also distributing tickets, that the same voter did not get more than one ticket?—He might possibly.

Mr. *Austin.*] Did you rely on the information of the parties who accompanied the voters?—Yes, in a general way, for the part I delivered.

That was the general course, was it?—That was the general course; I dare say other persons had tickets in their possession.

Whereabout did you deliver the rest of the tickets to Mr. Roberts on the first day?—It was at Mr. Frith's house, I believe.

At what time did you go to Mr. Frith's house?—I should think it was about five o'clock.

You know the committee met there, do not you?—I did not know there was any committee.

You know that persons met there to conduct the election?—I believe there was no committee, to my knowledge, formed.

You know that the persons met there who conducted the election?—I never heard any conversation how the election was to be conducted.

Did you not know that persons met there who were to conduct the election?—I cannot say who met there or anywhere else; I have seen persons there sometimes.

Do not you know that Captain Gronow's friends met there?—I have seen them there at times.

Do not you know that they met there for the purpose of conducting the election?—Some part of them might meet at other places, for anything I know.

Do you know that they sometimes met there for the purpose?—I have seen them there.

Did you not know they were there for the purpose of conducting the election? Why do you fence?—I do not understand what you mean.

Do you not know that they were there about the business of the election?—Yes; they might be there for some purpose of that sort, no doubt; I know Captain Gronow was there.

Did you go to Frith's before the night of the Monday; were you there on the Sunday night?—I believe I was.

Did you see the same persons there on the Sunday night?—I saw Mr. Bostock and Mr. Frith.

Whom else?—And Mr. Sylvester; I will not say as to Mr. Sylvester; Mr. Kingston.

What is his Christian name?—James, I believe.

Does he live at Stafford?—I think not.

Where does he live?—I cannot say where he lives.

What is his business?—I think he is a half-pay officer, or something of that kind.

Is he a lieutenant, or a captain, or what?—I cannot say,

Whom else did you see besides Mr. Kingston?—I think Richard Sellers was there too.

Whom else?—I am sure I cannot say whether there was any more or not; I think I saw five or six there.

Were not those the persons who conducted the election?—They had to do with it, I believe.

Did not they manage the election?—I cannot say who managed it.

Did not they manage the election?—They assisted, I suppose.

Do not you know that they managed the election?—I cannot say who managed the election.

Did not they give orders?—Not that I know of.

Do you know who managed the election?—I cannot say.

Do you know anybody else who managed the election or interfered in it?—I think Captain Gronow managed it himself, or Mr. Bostock.

Was Captain Gronow present with those persons on the Sunday evening?—I think he was.

And those persons I have named?—I cannot say as to all of them.

At what time on the Sunday was it arranged to give the tickets?—It was not arranged that I know of.

At what time were you told on the Sunday that tickets should be given to you?—Never.

When were you told the tickets should be given to you?—On Monday morning, when the poll commenced.

Do you mean to say there was no previous mention of it to you?—No.

When was it arranged that the election should be bought?—I never heard any talk of the election being bought.

Do you mean to swear you did not know on the Sunday night the election was to be bought?—I do mean to swear that.

Did you believe the election was to be bought on the Sunday night?—I would not say I had never heard anybody say it was to be.

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Did you believe on the Sunday night that the election was to be bought?—I cannot say.

Did you not believe it? You must answer the question?—I could not believe it unless I was told it was to be.

Did you not know on the Monday morning, before the poll commenced, money was to be given for votes?—I did not know what was to be done till I received the tickets.

Did you not know that it was intended to purchase the election?—I never had instructions to make tickets, or anything of the sort.

Did you believe on Monday morning the election was to be bought?—Not till I received the tickets.

That you mean to swear?—Yes.

Were you present at the consultation on Sunday night?—I heard no particular consultation.

Were you present at any consultation on the Sunday night?—Not respecting the buying of votes.

Were you present at any consultation on Sunday night?—We sat together for an hour.

You talked about the election?—Yes; and whether there was a probability of winning, and so on.

You swear you heard no conversation about the mode of obtaining the election?—No.

At what time did you go away?—About nine o'clock.

Was that before the tickets were produced?—I never saw any tickets till Monday.

Had you been concerned in any former elections at Stafford?—No, I never had.

Do you mean to swear you did not know that that election was to be bought till the tickets were produced to you?—No.

How did you understand what was meant by the tickets on the Monday?—Because I understood there had been such a plan before.

When did you hear that?—I heard talk about it.

Where?—In Stafford, many times.

Are you speaking to a former purchase of the election there?—Something which had taken place some years ago there.

From what you had known of the former election you knew the meaning of bringing those tickets to you?—Certainly I did.

And what was to be done with them?—Certainly I did.

Did you yourself vote in the election for 1832?—That was Mr. Campbell's election, was not it?

December 1832?—Yes, I did.

Whom did you vote for?—I voted for Mr. Blunt and Captain Chetwynd.

Do you know Mr. Webb?—Which Mr. Webb?

Do you know a person of the name of Webb at Stafford?—Plenty of them; several of them.

Had you a conversation with any person of the name of Webb at the election?—No, not that I know of.

Did you ever see a bribe given at that election?

> Mr. *Whateley* objected to an examination into the transactions of the election of 1832.
>
> The Counsel was informed, that the question might be put, as arising out of the answer the witness had given of his means of information as to the tickets.

Did you see a bribe given at that election?—I did not.

> Mr. *Whateley* objected to the word "bribe" being introduced into the question, and submitted that the question should be whether a sum of money was given.
>
> Mr. *Austin* was heard in support of the question.
>
> The Counsel was informed, that it appeared desirable he should, in the first instance, confine himself to the question of fact of a sum of money being paid, and then under what circumstances.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you know Charles Webb?—Very well.

Had

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Had you a vote in the election for 1831; that was the election previous to 1832; Sir John Campbell, Gronow and Chetwynd were candidates?—I never recollect Sir John Campbell being there when Gronow was there.

How many times have you voted for Stafford?—About six times, I think.

Did you know Charles Webb at the last election but one for Stafford?—Very well.

And at the election before that?—I did not know he had anything to do with the elections before that.

He had to do with the election before the last, had he not?—I recollect his being with Mr. Blunt then.

Did you receive any money for your vote at the election?—None.

Will you swear that?—Yes.

Which election are you speaking of now?—At Blunt and Gronow's election.

In 1832?—I suppose it was.

Did you receive any money for your vote at the election before?—Yes, I did; at Campbell's election.

Did you receive any at the election before that?—I really cannot say; I do not recollect receiving any money.

Did you at any time receive any money for your vote at Stafford?—I believe I have once, when I was in different circumstances.

Who paid you that money?—It was brought to me; I never went for any.

Who brought it?—A person by the name of Garner, I think it was; that was Campbell's first election; then I voted for him the next.

Were bribes distributed by means of tickets at that election?—I cannot say; I saw none.

At that election was money distributed by means of tickets?—I think it was at Gronow's first election; I am not quite certain.

Did you hear of any mode of distributing money at the time of that election?—Yes, I did.

Was it in consequence of your acquaintance with that mode of distributing money that you knew what the tickets were brought for at the last election?—Yes, of course; I never knew anything of them before, but what I had heard at that election.

You say you were present at Frith's?—I was.

Were there any lists made out or given at Frith's on Sunday night?—Lists of what?

Were there any lists of anything?—I saw no lists.

Was there breakfast on the Monday morning?—I saw none.

Do you know whether there were breakfasts at the public-houses on Monday morning?—I recollect there were for the constables who were to keep the burgesses in order at the election.

Were those constables voters?—I cannot say.

How many of them were there?—I think I have heard Mr. Sylvester say there were about eighty of them.

They were voters, were they?—I cannot say whether they were voters or not; I dare say they were, some of them, voters.

Have you any doubt they were all voters?—I have my doubts about it.

Do you know any one who was not a voter?—I do not.

Do you know what ticket-money is?—I do not understand what ticket-money you mean, or I would give an answer.

Do not you know that 5*s.* is given to a man?—Yes; I understand you very well now.

You do know what ticket-money is?—I certainly have heard of it.

To whom is that given?—To the burgesses in general, and the burgesses' wives, they did give them to.

At what time of the election is that ticket-money given?—I think that is usually given before the election.

Was it given before the election at the last election?—I saw none at the last election, nor heard talk of none.

How many of your own men have votes for Stafford?—I should think there are ten or a dozen of them.

Which way did they vote upon the last occasion?—They voted various ways.

Did you give a ticket to any of them?—I believe I did.

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To how many of them?—I recollect giving a ticket to one; I think his name is Bowers; I will not be certain.

Joseph Bowers?—Yes.

To whom else did you give a ticket, of your own men?—To a person of the name of Carter.

What was his Christian name?—John Carter.

Whom else?—I think another person of the name of Hill.

What is his Christian name?—I think Edward Hill.

To whom else?—I do not recollect any other; I cannot say that I did to any other.

Can you say you did not?—No, I cannot say that I did not.

Which of your men voted the other way?—I am sure I cannot say.

Mention one that voted against Captain Gronow?—A person of the name of Dawson voted against him.

For whom did he vote?—I think for Goodricke.

For anybody else?—And Chetwynd, I think.

What is Dawson's name?—Daniel Dawson.

Had you canvassed Daniel Dawson?—I believe I had; he was the only man I ever asked. I did not ask him, indeed; he told me he would vote for Captain Gronow; but I believe he did not; that he voted for Goodricke and Chetwynd.

You did not give a ticket to him?—I did not.

Is he the only person in your employment to whom you did not give a ticket?—I am sure I cannot say.

Were there others that voted against Captain Gronow?—Yes; I think there were others that did not vote for Captain Gronow besides him.

Did you know at the time of the election how many voted for Captain Gronow, and how many voted against him?—I dare say I did.

Do you mean to say you cannot tell me now how many voted for and how many against him?—I am sure I cannot.

Were you at the poll on the second day?—I believe not; I did not go the second day, I think.

You have given up your tickets?—I have.

How came you to take the tickets back to Mr. Frith's?—I took them there to give them to whom I had them from.

You expected to find him there?—I expected to find Roberts and Frith.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whitmore.

I think you said, that of the tickets you gave away, some were given in Court while the polling was going on?—The chiefest part of them.

Those were given to persons whom you saw vote?—Yes.

Some were given in the Hall?—Yes; some of them.

Was that Hall filled with voters on different sides?—Yes.

Did the Court open into the Hall?—Yes; except a little passage between them.

Had you any means of knowing that persons to whom you gave tickets in the Hall had not received tickets before?—Well, I cannot say how that was, whether they had or not.

Had you any means at the time of knowing that?—No.

What were those tickets?—A smallish piece of paper.

Was it a paper or card?—Card.

With a seal?—Yes.

Do you know what the impression was?—I cannot say; I kept them in my pocket and never looked at them.

There was nothing extraordinary about them?—No, I did not perceive anything extraordinary about them.

You say you gave up the tickets, those that remained?—Yes.

To whom were those given?—To Bostock and Roberts; I believe his name was Roberts.

You did not distribute any to voters on the second day?—None at all.

Do you know whether any were given to voters on the second day?—That I cannot say for certain; I am sure there might be, for anything I know.

Do you know how many voted for Captain Gronow on the second day?—No, I do not recollect; I was not in the hall, and took no part in the proceedings the second day.

What

What description of persons were those to whom you gave the tickets, for the most part; what class of persons?—I think they were chiefly working men.

Did you receive any money yourself?—None at all, nor gave any, except a few shillings, 2 *l.*, or something of that kind, to pay some constables; there was not enough, and I had to pay part out of my own pocket.

You are not living at Stafford now?—I am.

I thought you said you were living at Manchester?—I had lived at Macclesfield before.

Have you had anything to refresh your memory about these things till now, since the autumn?—No, I let it die away.

This took place in January 1835?—Yes, it did.

By a Lord.] You say you returned about 100 tickets?—I cannot exactly say, for I took them out of my pocket and returned them to Bostock and to Roberts.

You say you returned about 100?—Fifty, I think, or towards 100; I cannot exactly say, for I just took them out of my pocket and gave them to him.

You say you had taken away 50?—No, I did not state that number, I think; there might be about 50, I think; I cannot exactly say.

You said you did not receive above 50; how do you make that out?—I received twice; I took but very few the first time.

You never told us you had received twice?—I was never asked.

When did you receive them a second time?—They were brought to me from Bostock.

By whom?—Edwin Bostock.

Where?—In the hall.

Had you delivered away all the first?—I had not; I had plenty. There were very few voted in that court which I stood in, I think.

You took them to Frith's, the remainder?—Yes.

How came you to take them to Frith's?—I expected to find Bostock and Roberts there.

How came that?—Because I knew that Mr. Bostock and Roberts were there a good deal of their time.

You stated that the persons to whom you delivered the tickets were generally poor people?—In a general way; I believe they were working men.

Were there any that might be called the respectable inhabitants of Stafford that took the tickets?—No, I do not know one.

They were the poorer part of the town?—Yes, I think they were so.

Could you state any one decent householder who took a ticket; any one respectable householder?—I do not know of one, except one old man of the name of —— I forget his name; I dare say I could find his name if I saw the book.

But you cannot state any other instance of a respectable householder?—No, I cannot.

[*The Witness referred to the printed copy of the poll-book, and answered, —His name was Grimes.*]

In what situation was he?—He is an old man; he keeps two or three cows.

That is the only instance of a respectable inhabitant taking the money?—I suppose he is rather poor.

Can you state generally whether they were taken mostly by freemen of the town, or by the inhabitants who had acquired the right of voting under the Reform Bill?—I cannot exactly state.

Were the greater number of the one description or the other?—I cannot state that; the greater part were freemen, I should think.

There were a great number of respectable inhabitants of Stafford that did not take them?—There were.

Persons of the class of decent shopkeepers; were any of them persons to whom tickets of this description were given?—I do not know any.

They were mostly labouring men?—Yes; I should think so.

What was the whole number of persons that were entitled to vote as electors at that election?—I should think about 1,100.

You have been at several elections at Stafford?—I have.

Was the last election different from others in any particular?—I should hope it was a great deal different from the others.

In what respect was it different; was there not much less bribery?—There was.

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was, I believe; though I never could positively swear to seeing it; nor I never did see any.

Your belief is, that there was much less at the last election than at the former elections?—I believe there was.

Had there been a good deal of talk about the Bill brought into Parliament previous to the last election and subsequent to the former one?—There had.

And the examinations which took place at the House of Lords?—Yes.

People bore that in mind a good deal at the last election?—They did, I believe.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Booth* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

William Booth.

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a shoemaker living at Stafford?—I am what is called a clicker, and foreman to Mr. John Cartwright, of Stafford.

Did you live at Stafford during the last election?—I did.

Do you know Mr. Frith?—I do.

Were you in the house of Mr. Frith on the night before the election?—I was not.

Were you in Stafford on the morning of the first day of the election?—I was.

Did you take any part in the election?—I took some tickets, that is, what is called seals; I had some seals given me from Mr. Bostock.

They were called seals in Stafford?—Yes; there were large seals and small ones.

Which Mr. Bostock brought them to you; what was his name?—I think it was Mr. Edwin Bostock.

Where did he bring them to you?—They had begun to poll that morning before I had the seals.

Did he give you any instructions with them?—He told me that I must give a large seal to a plumper of Mr. Gronow's, and a small one to one that gave him one vote.

To a split vote?—Yes.

Did he tell you what was to be done with the card?—He did not.

Did you so distribute them?—I did.

A large seal to a plumper, and a small seal to a man that voted a split vote?—Yes.

When did you present them to the voter?—Soon after he had voted.

Did he come up to you for them?—I stood on one side as he came by, and I put it into his hand.

Did you stand at the front of the booth?—No; but as they came out of the booth.

Which way did the voters go in to vote?—The other way; this was the contrary way.

How many tickets were given to you?—I cannot say.

Had you them given you more than once?—I cannot say that.

Did any other person give you tickets besides Mr. Bostock?—I do not think they did; I rather think Mr. Bostock and this strange gentleman were together.

Was that the person who passed by the name of Roberts?—It was.

Had you any other supply?—I believe not.

Were they put into your hand?—As many as I could put into my pocket.

How many times did you put your hand into your pocket for the tickets?—I cannot say.

Do you think there were 50?—I should think there were.

Of each sort?—I cannot say.

Did you take any account of them?—I should think I had more than 50 of each sort; I gave many of them back.

Do you think you had a hundred during the day?—I cannot say.

Will you swear you had not a hundred?—I will not.

You took no account of them?—No; I did not.

How many did you distribute?—I cannot say.

Did the majority of votes given to Captain Gronow that day vote at your booth?—I cannot say; I never saw the poll-book.

Did you stay there to the end of the poll?—Not quite.

Did

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Did anybody assist you in giving those tickets?—They did not.

Did you give them to any but voters?—No; all that voted that I knew had the tickets that came to me for them.

By a Lord.] Do you mean to say that all persons who voted had the tickets?—All that came for Captain Gronow.

Do you mean that tickets were given only to such as did vote, or that no persons voted for Captain Gronow who had not the tickets?—No, I do not mean to say that; but that all persons who voted for Captain Gronow, that came to me, had the tickets.

Mr. *Rushton.*] I understood you stood by the door, and gave them into the hand of the man as he passed out, after having voted?—Yes.

Did you canvass before the election?—I did not.

Do you know what ticket-money is?—No.

Do you know of any money usually given before the election?—I do not.

Do you know of any tickets for a crown each being given before the election?—I do not, that is to say, before this election.

Where did you take the tickets which remained after the poll closed?—To Mr. Frith's.

To whom did you give them?—To Mr. Bostock.

Did you count them?—I did not.

Did you know whether there was any difference in value between the small seals and the large?—I cannot say that I did not; it was near the close of the poll I heard there was a difference.

What was the difference?—Of course the difference would be, one would have twice as much as the other that received it.

Can you tell what it was the ticket denoted?—No, I cannot say; but I heard them say the ticket denoted that a plumper should have 6*l.*, and a single vote 3*l.*

Was that commonly spoken of in the hall?—I did not hear it commonly spoken of in the hall.

Who told you of it?—I cannot say who it was.

Were the tickets given indiscriminately to all persons, housekeepers and others?—To all that came for them.

Did you attend any meeting of Captain Gronow's committee?—I did not.

Were you at Frith's on the Sunday?—I was not.

Were you on Saturday?—I was not.

When did you first go there?—I never was there, I believe, but once, and that was a night or two after Captain Gronow came into the town.

Was there a meeting there?—There was a kind of meeting; but nothing was said about anything of the kind, that I heard.

How many were present at the meeting?—I cannot say who were present.

Was Mr. Frith there?—He was.

The Jones's?—Some of the Jones's were there.

How many?—Two or three, I believe.

Was Mr. Sylvester there?—I cannot swear to that.

Did you ever see him there?—If I saw him it must be at that time, for I was not there any more.

Did you see him there?—I do not think he was there.

Was there any conversation about the mode of conducting the election?—Not while I was there, there was nothing said about that.

Were you intrusted with any money during the last election?—I was not.

You did not canvass?—I did not.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley*

You have said that you heard a plumper was to have 6*l.* and a split vote 3*l.*; do you mean of those persons who voted for Captain Gronow?—Of course.

Did you hear of any other persons receiving money for their votes, except those who voted for Captain Gronow?—I did not.

You have said you gave those tickets to the persons who voted for Captain Gronow who asked for them; were the persons that received them generally in bad circumstances, and a low situation of life?—It is likely that most of them were.

Do you know that any respectable shopkeepers or housekeepers in Stafford received those tickets from your hand?—I cannot swear to that.

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Do you not believe that there was not a single respectable person who received one of them from your hands?—There was one.

Who was that one?—I cannot sware who he was.

Do you believe there was more than one?—I do.

Do you mean of shopkeepers and respectable traders?—No.

Do you believe there was a single shopkeeper or respectable tradesman applied to you for one of those tickets?—There was one, but he was a respectable shoemaker.

You mean a journeyman shoemaker?—Yes.

Do you believe there was a single respectable shopkeeper or householder who applied to you for one of those tickets?—I believe there was.

Were not the great majority of the persons who applied, persons in low circumstances?—The majority of them were, certainly.

How long did you distribute the tickets on the first day?—I should think from 10 o'clock till three, nearly; I cannot say, it might be after 10 o'clock.

Did you then return the remainder of the tickets you had to Bostock?—I did, that night.

And you never received them afterwards?—I never received them afterwards.

How many tickets do you think you distributed?—I cannot say.

You can say about how many?—I cannot say how many.

Cannot you say whether you distributed twenty or fifty, or more or less?—I distributed more than fifty.

Do you think you distributed a hundred?—I cannot say; I might do that.

Did you keep any account of them?—I did not.

Was that the only time you were ever concerned in an election at Stafford?—It was.

Did you see Captain Gronow that evening after the poll closed?—I did not.

Nor his brother?—I saw his brother.

Have you seen his brother since?—I have not, nor I had not any conversation with him then.

You do not know where he lives now?—No, I do not.

By a Lord.] You stated that you stood at the door of the booth, and when one of Captain Gronow's voters came out, you took a ticket out of your pocket and slipped it into his hand?—Yes.

Did any one person into whose hand you slipped a ticket, reject it?—They, perhaps, did not all ask for it; all that asked for them had them.

Did you give to none but those that asked?—I did not; they came by and held out their hands; they said they had voted for Captain Gronow, and I put the ticket into their hands.

Were there many that went by without asking?—Not many.

Were there any?—Yes, I think there were some.

Do you believe there were many?—There were some that did not ask at all, because they did not come through after they had voted.

Did you see the distribution of tickets to other parties?—I did not.

Do you know by whom the tickets were paid?—I do not.

Do you know the total number of votes that were given for Captain Gronow?—I do not.

Were all the tickets issued paid by one person?—The tickets were all paid by one person, no doubt; but they were not given to one person.

They were paid by Roberts, were they not?—I cannot say; I suppose it was by him; I never saw them paid, nor saw no money.

Whoever the person was, they were all paid by one person, and his payment would be the total payment for the votes?—I suppose so.

How came you not to stay till the end of the first day; you say you left soon after three?—It might be near four.

You did not go the next day, you say?—No, I went to my work the next day; I never went near them again.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, that the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till to-morrow, at three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Martis, 21° Junii, 1836.

THE Order of the Day being read for the further Consideration and Second Reading of the Bill, intituled "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their Counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their Petition;

The Counsel were accordingly called in.

Then *Frederick Bostock* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Frederick Bostock.

21 June 1836.

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a master shoemaker?—I am.

Where do you now reside?—I am residing at Shrewsbury.

How long have you lived there?—Since the month of January.

Did you live at Stafford previously?—I did.

Did you take a part in the last election at Stafford?—I did.

Were you employed as a canvasser?—I was.

When did you begin the canvass?—On the Friday night previous to the election.

Did you canvass generally throughout the borough of Stafford?—Yes.

Did you canvass alone or in company?—In company with Edward Kenderdine.

What is he?—He is a journeyman in the employ of my father.

A shoemaker?—Yes.

Did you visit the burgesses at their houses?—Yes.

Did you find any in the streets?—Yes; I found several groups in the street, many groups.

When you canvassed them, what did you say to them?—I told them that there would be money given them for their votes.

Did you name any sum?—Not at that time; the sum was not named.

Did you speak of the money first, or did the voters?—I really do not know; it was generally understood that there would be money given; I cannot say whether I spoke of it first.

Or whether you were spoken to on the subject?—No.

Were you asked how much money would be given, by any of the voters?—Yes, I was.

Were you enabled to answer that question?—Not until the Monday I was not.

Did you canvass on the Monday?—I did.

Was that the first day of the election?—Yes.

Were you enabled to tell the price on that day?—Yes; I told the price on that day.

What was it?—It was 3*l* and 6*l*.; 3*l*. for a split vote, and 6*l*. for a plumper.

Did the price begin at that rate?—No, it did not begin at that rate.

At what rate did it commence?—At 5*l*.

For a plumper?—Yes.

And half the price for a split vote?—Yes.

Whom were you canvassing for?—For Captain Gronow.

By a Lord.] Singly?—For him alone.

You asked only for votes for Captain Gronow?—Yes.

Mr. *Rushton.*] What induced you to tell the voters money would be given? It was agreed upon by the committee.

By Captain Gronow's committee?—Yes, I conceive so; I had instructions from the committee.

Where did they meet?—At Mr. Frith's.

Did you attend those meetings?—I did not attend the meetings; I was there sometimes, but never when anything was done.

From whom had you your instructions about the price?—From my brother and the Reverend Mr. Gronow.

Frederick Bostock.

21 June 1836.

Now, did the men come freely to the poll on the first day, the first morning?—Not on the former part it.

Do you know what reason induced them to hold back?—I do not know that there was any reason.

Did any voter state any reason to you?—No; they did not state any particular reason.

Did their reluctance continue after the price was raised?—No, they came more freely.

Now, were the voters collected in groups in the street during the election?—On the Monday they were; it always is the case in elections at Stafford.

Did you negotiate with any of these groups?—Yes, I did.

For their votes?—Yes.

Did any of those refuse to go at that price?—They said that the price would be raised; some few, three or four of them, perhaps.

Who refused?—Yes.

Stating the price would be raised?—Yes.

Do you know of any money being given on the other side?—I do not.

Were you intrusted with any money during the election?—With 60 *l.*

By whom?—I had the check from the Reverend Mr. Gronow and my brother; I cannot say exactly who it was.

How did you apply that money?—£. 20 I gave to Sylvester, the younger one.

Did you give any instructions with it?—That it should be paid to four men.

Did you give the notes to this man?—I did.

Can you recollect them?—I cannot; I recollect one man was named Birch.

Did you know his Christian name?—No, I do not.

What did you do with the remainder?—£. 20 or 25 *l.* was given to a man of the name of Williams, I cannot say which sum.

For what purpose?—For paying voters.

What is Williams's name?—I cannot recollect his Christian name.

What is he?—A shoemaker.

A master or journeyman?—I believe he is a master, a small master.

What did you do with the remainder of the 60 *l.*?—It was applied for paying bills.

Bills, or voters?—Bills at public houses.

Were the public houses in the town generally open?—I believe they were.

Were the voters entertained in those public houses?—Yes, they were.

By all parties?—It was supported by all parties; I cannot say.

Were any colours worn during the election?—Not any that I saw.

Now, on the day of the election, did you canvass at the houses of the freemen or in the streets chiefly?—In the streets principally.

Were voters waiting about the streets?—Waiting in groups on the Monday.

Now, in your conversations with the voters, did they refer to the politics or personal merits of the candidates, or merely the price?—I do not recollect any subject of politics being introduced.

Nor the personal merits of the candidate?—Not that I recollect, except so far as the fear that Captain Gronow would petition; that was the only objection that was raised.

Was it known in Stafford at that time that proceedings were pending in Parliament on the subject?—Yes; it was very generally known.

Do you think that that induced more caution than usual?—Yes; there is no doubt there was more caution at the time.

Had you the custody of any tickets during the election?—No, I had not.

Did you see any money paid for tickets?—I saw several.

Was that at the house of Mr. Sylvester?—Yes, it was at the house of Mr. Sylvester.

Then there was money paid privately by individuals to voters as well as by tickets?—Yes; in those two instances that I mention.

The 60 *l.* intrusted to you was distributed privately without tickets?—Yes; not the whole of it.

By a *Lord.*] How did you dispose of that 60 *l.*?—£. 40 or 45 *l.*, I cannot say which exactly, was given to voters, and the remainder was in incidental expenses.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Certain voters were paid by Sylvester?—Yes.

To whom you gave 20 *l.* or 25 *l.*?—Yes; I believe it was 20 *l.*

How much was paid to Williams?—Either 20 *l.* or 25 *l.*

£. 25 by Williams?—Yes, and 20 *l.* by Sylvester.

That would leave a balance of 15 *l.*?—Yes.

Was that paid by yourself to voters?—No, not to voters, in the way of treating.

In public houses?—Yes.

Do you know how many public houses were open in Stafford on this occasion?—I cannot say; they were numerous; there were 15 or 16.

For all parties?—I should conceive so.

Did you meet with a person passing by the name of Roberts there?—I did not.

Did you meet with the person who was called the Dudley Devil?—I heard this report, that there was a person of that name.

Was he a stranger in the borough?—I believe he was.

Did you see him?—Yes; I saw him once or twice during the canvass.

Was he a gentleman or a labouring man?—I cannot say, I am sure; he had an appearance the same as most men have.

Was he well dressed?—Not well dressed; about the middling class.

Would you know him if you were to see him again?—He was marked with the small pox, but I could not swear to his features.

Do you know what the object of his visit to Stafford was?—I know what the report was.

Can you tell us what was the report?

Mr. *Whateley* objected to this question, and it was withdrawn.

Did you see him employed in any way?—I did not.

Did you see him in any of those public-houses you have spoken of?—No, I do not recollect.

Did you see him at either of the polling booths?—I never was in them.

Did you see him in the court-house?—Not that I recollect; I believe I never did.

Was he there at all during the election?—I cannot say.

Can you tell me when you first saw him?—I saw him on the Monday; I believe it was on Monday.

That was the first day of the election?—Yes.

That was the first time?—I cannot say whether it was the first time; I know I did see him then.

Where was he when you saw him?—I saw him near to the market-place; I saw him in various directions of the town.

Is the court-house in the direction of the market-place?—It is.

Then he could not be far from the court-house?—No, he was not far from the court-house; the court-house is just in the market-place.

Do you know what is meant by ticket-money in Stafford?—Ticket-money; there are various kinds of ticket-money.

Describe them, if you please?—There are tickets given for ale, and again there are tickets given for money; those are the different kinds of tickets.

Are the tickets of various value?—Yes, I suppose they are; I cannot say I ever saw one.

Do you know whether it is the practice to leave tickets at the voters' houses previous to their meeting?—Not that I am aware of; there may have been tickets left; I could not say. I was never in any election except the last.

Did the voters continue to poll freely for Captain Gronow during the first day?—After the start was made; they did not in the former part of the day.

What do you mean by the start?—When they ascertained what sum of money was likely to be paid.

Is it your opinion that money would have obtained the majority at that election?—Yes, I think it would.

Do you remember the names of any of the electors whom you saw paid at Mr. Sylvester's?—I recollect the name of one; his name is Lambert.

Are you aware of any arrangement being made through the master shoemakers as to the men in their employment?—I am not; I never heard of any.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whateley.

I understand you to say you gave 20 *l.* or 25 *l.* to Williams?—Yes.

Did you see him pay away that money?—No, I did not.

Did you know, of your own knowledge, what he did with it?—No, I do not.

Frederick Bostock.

21 June 1836.

Frederick Bostock.

21 June 1836.

Examined by the House.

In the early part of your evidence you mentioned Captain Gronow's committee; who were the members of that committee?—They were my brother, my Lords; I do not think there was any regular committee.

Who acted as the committee?—I believe my brother was one, and Mr. Jones was another.

Only those two?—There were not many; I think, Mr. Watford; I know they were there; there was no regularly organized committee.

Whom did you mean when you spoke of the committee?—I meant those persons.

Your brother, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Watford?—Yes.

Were you at Frith's on Sunday night?—Yes.

Was anything said about the price of the votes at that time?—No.

Nothing about giving tickets?—I was not present.

Were you there on Monday night?—I was there late on Monday night.

Did you hear anything about the other party giving 8 *l.* for a vote?—I heard that mentioned.

Who mentioned it?—I cannot say; it was mentioned in the general conversation.

Was it the general talk and conversation there?—Yes.

You understood that the other party were giving 8 *l.* for a vote?—8 *l.* were mentioned, but I cannot say.

Was it mooted among the company, that if Captain Gronow did not raise his price to 8 *l.* he would probably lose his election?—I do not know.

How came it to be stated what the other party was giving?—I cannot say how it came to be stated.

It was understood that the other party were giving money, that they had raised their price to 8 *l.*?—Yes.

Was there any proposition to Captain Gronow to raise his price to 8 *l.*?—No, I am not aware.

He did not raise his price?—Not from 6 *l.* to 8 *l.*

You cannot state the name of any person who positively affirmed having seen money given by the other party?—I could not, my Lords.

In the course of your application, you state that you applied to voters that were collected together in town, and informed them that money would be given?—Yes.

Now, what class of voters were they; were they the poorer class or the respectable inhabitants of the town?—They were principally the burgesses, the lower class of the inhabitants.

Were there any that could be called respectable shopkeepers or inhabitants to whom you addressed yourself on that occasion?—No, my Lords, there was not.

There are a good many such in the town of Stafford, of respectable voters?—Yes, my Lords, but not in proportion to the lower class of voters.

Will you state a person that was present when it was stated that any other person, except Mr. Gronow, was giving money for votes?—Those persons I have mentioned were present; it was mentioned in the room that there were persons present.

Was it stated as a positive fact, or as matter of surmise?—It was mentioned as a matter of surmise.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

George Nixon was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

George Nixon.

Mr. *Austin.*] WHAT is your Christian name?—George.

Do you live at Stafford?—Yes.

What are you?—An innkeeper there.

How long have you been an innkeeper at Stafford?—Five years.

Have you been concerned in any former elections at Stafford, elections before the last?—No, Sir.

Was your house open last election?—It was, some part of the time.

Were many voters there?—Very few.

Were there any?—Some.

When

When was your house first open?—It might be about three or four days.

Was it open on Monday?—Yes.

Was it open on Thursday?—For a few, it was.

Was it open on Wednesday?—I cannot recollect; it was.

On Thursday it was open for a few; you do not know whether it was open on Wednesday?—It was.

Was it open on Friday?—Yes.

Saturday?—Yes.

Sunday?—Yes.

Monday?—Yes.

Tuesday?—Yes.

Wednesday?—Part of the day.

Thursday?—No, Sir.

How many voters were there there during that time?—I should think at the most there could not be above 30 to 40 at one time.

You mean to say present at that election?—Yes.

Were they in one room or two rooms?—Two rooms.

Was that the largest number?—That was the largest number at one time.

I suppose there were 30 during the whole day, were there not?—No.

When did they begin to come in?—Towards the afternoon or evening.

And I suppose the number then was pretty constant till night?—Sometimes there were very few in, sometimes more.

Were they drinking?—Yes.

And eating?—No eating at all.

No supper?—No, we had no supper.

No dinner?—No.

What did they drink?—Chiefly ale.

Did anybody drink anything but ale?—Very few spirits, very few indeed.

And ale?—Yes.

Did you keep an account of what was consumed?—No, I did not.

Have you ever been paid?—Yes.

Who paid you?—Mr. Walker paid me for what they had.

Who is Mr. Walker?—He is Mr. Gifford's steward.

Is that Mr. Robert Walker?—Yes.

What did he pay you?—He might pay me in the whole as much as from 20 *l.* to 30 *l.*

Do you not remember the sum that he paid you?—I did not make any memorandum; I put it down on a board, and as soon as I gave him the account of what it was I rubbed it off.

Do you ever keep any accounts in your business?—No.

Nothing of what you receive?—We never trust, except for a few pints.

Did you ever keep any books?—Yes.

You have to make up your books at the end of the year?—No.

How came you not to make an entry of the sum you received in your book?—I did not keep one.

Do you mean to say that you keep no book at all?—No; not with regard to trusting.

Do you keep any book of accounts relative to your business?—What goods I receive I put them down.

Do you keep any accounts of money paid or received?—Opposite to them; I put them down in the same book.

Do you keep any accounts of monies received?—No, I do not.

Never?—Excepting I might trust to a pound or two, then I do.

Be good enough to recollect yourself, and tell me how much you received from this steward of Mr. Gifford's, Mr. Walker?—I think it might be about 30 *l.* or rather better.

Was it not 40 *l.*?—I do not think it was.

Come, will you swear it was not 40 *l.*?—To the best of my recollection it was not.

Will you swear?—To the best of my recollection, it was not.

What period of time did that 30 *l.* or 40 *l.* cover?—About four or five days.

Is that the only sum of money that you ever received?—From Mr. Walker?

Is that the only sum of money you ever received from Mr. Walker?—No; not exactly so.

George Nixon.

21 June 1836.

Is that the only sum you ever received from Mr. Walker, or is it not?—For liquor?

Is it the only sum you ever received from Mr. Walker or not?—No.

Did your ever receive any other?—Yes.

What for?—It was for some money that I laid down to treat the women.

At the last election?—Yes.

How much was that?—About 22 *l.*

When did he pay you that?—He paid me some time after the election.

I did not ask you when he paid you the 30 *l.* or 40 *l.*?—One part was paid soon after the election, and one was paid with the money for treating the women.

How much did you receive when you were paid the 22 *l.* for treating the women?—About 30 *l.* in the whole.

How much did you receive with that 22 *l.* which you were repaid for treating the women?—Upon the whole of it?

Upon the general treating Bill?—Between 50 *l.* and 60 *l.* in the whole.

Do you mean to say that 50 *l.* or 60 *l.* was all that Mr. Walker paid you?—Yes.

He paid you 22 *l.* which you advanced for treating the women?——Yes.

At that time he paid you a portion of that 30 *l.* or 40 *l.*?—Yes.

How much did he pay you when he paid you the 22 *l.*?—It might be about 10 *l.*

Did he pay you the rest immediately after the election?—It was some time afterwards.

How long afterwards?—About a month or six weeks after the election.

How much did he pay you?—About 30 *l.*

And 10 *l.* when he paid you the 22 *l.*; is that so?—Yes.

The 22 *l.* was for treating the women?—Yes.

That is 62 *l.*?—Yes; it is between 50 *l.* and 60 *l.*, the money I received in the whole.

Now, as to treating the women, be so good as to tell us when you advanced the money to treat the women?—On the Saturday before the election.

At whose request did you advance the money?—I was asked by Mr. Clewlow; he said they were going to give the women something, and he asked me if I would assist them.

Did you say "Yes"?—Yes.

What direction did Mr. Clewlow give you?—I went with him and saw Mr. Walker, and he asked me if I would go through a certain part of the town, which I did.

On what day of the week was that?—That was on Saturday.

What time of the day?—Soon after dinner.

Did you go with him?—I went alone by myself.

Did you in consequence advance the money?—Yes.

What day did you advance the money?—On the day that I went.

On the Saturday also?—Yes.

What do you mean by advancing the money?—I had not received money from them, and I named it, and Mr. Walker said it should be all right; I received whatever I paid.

To whom did you advance the money?—To poor women.

You paid it the women yourself?—Yes.

Now, do I understand you to say that you went to a place in the town by Clewlow's desire?—Yes; he wanted me to go with him.

Did he mention the place to you?—Yes.

Was Mr. Walker present when he mentioned the place?—No, he was not.

What was the name of the place?—The Vine, where he asked me to go.

That is kept by Charles Morris?—Yes.

Did you go to Charles Morris's at the Vine?—I did.

Did you see Clewlow there?—Yes; I went with him.

Did you see Walker there?—I did.

Inform their Lordships whom else you saw at the Vine?—I think Mr. Charles Morris came in the time I was there.

Morris, Walker, Clewlow, and you were in the room?—Yes.

How long were you there?—About an hour and a half.

Was nobody else there during that time?—If there was they did not stop.

Was

Was anybody else there during that time?—There might; one or two came in and went out again; but there was none that I can recollect.

What was the conversation about?—It was principally about giving the poor women this trifle.

Do you mean by the poor women the wives of the voters?—Yes.

How much were you to give to the wife of each voter;—*5 s.* apiece.

How many did you pay *5 s.*?—I cannot tell exactly; it came to pretty nearly *22 l.*

That is about 88 or 90?—Yes, that is about the number.

Did you pay them with your own hand?—I did.

Who directed you to pay them?—When I went with Mr. Clewlow, he asked me if I would give the poor women *5 s.* apiece.

How did you know which were the women to whom you were to give the *5 s.*?—I knew a great many of the burgesses' wives, and some I asked whether they were wives or not.

Were you instructed to give the *5 s.* to the wife of every burgess?—Yes; I did not give it to those who were not burgesses' wives.

Were you instructed to give *5 s.* to the wife of every burgess?—In the part I was giving.

Do you mean the part or the party?—The part of the town.

What part of the town were you instructed to go to?—To Back Wall, to Bull Mount and Vine-street.

That is the district that was assigned to you, is it?—Yes.

Who told you to go to Back Wall, Bull Mount, and Vine-street?—I was asked which part I would take; I said, that part, as I should do it myself, and I had not time to go further.

Who asked you whether you would take that part?—Mr. Clewlow.

How many other parts in the town were there?—I cannot say; he asked me where I would go, and I told him where I could manage to go in the time; I mean the time I had to spare.

Now, Mr. Clewlow went to some other part?—Yes.

Do you know who went to the rest of the parts, if any?—I cannot say.

I want to know what instructions you had as to paying the *5 s.* at Back Wall, Bull Mount, and Vine-street?—I was merely to give the women *5 s.* to get a cup of tea.

What women?—The burgesses' wives.

Were you to give all the burgesses' wives in Back Wall, Bull Mount, and Vine-street *5 s.* each?—To the wives.

To all the burgesses' wives, or the burgesses who voted for a particular party?—To all.

Indiscriminately?—Yes, indiscriminately.

When was this done?—The day before the election.

The distribution was made then?—Yes.

What is the name of that distribution in Stafford; do you call it ticket-money?—It was a treat, given as a treat.

Do you call it ticket-money?—No.

Did you pay it in shillings and half-crowns?—In shillings and half-crowns.

Do you know what ticket-money is?—I have always understood ticket-money is when tickets are printed, and *5 s.* put down on them; they get their ticket, and receive their money afterwards.

Did you distribute any of these tickets at this election?—No, Sir.

Are you sure of that?—Yes.

Did you see any of them?—I never did.

Had the *5 s.* that you mention to have been given to the freemen's wives at the last election been given at any former election, to your knowledge?—There might have been formerly, but I never had done it before.

Now, inform us for which these persons who came to your house during the days you have mentioned, and drank ale and spirits there, voted during that election?—They voted all ways.

Do you mean to swear that?—Yes; they voted for all candidates, some for one and some for another; it was not for any one particular party they voted for always.

Did any of them vote for Goodricke?—Yes.

Did not the majority vote for Goodricke?—I believe they did.

George Nixon.

21 June 1836.

Was not Mr. Walker acting for Mr. Goodricke?—Yes, he might be.

Have you any doubt that he was?—I understood he was a friend.

Have you any doubt that he was acting for Mr. Goodricke?—I cannot say I have.

Who gave you the orders to open your house?—Mr. Walker once or twice did.

When did he give you the first order?—It might be on Monday or Thursday.

When did he give you the second?—I had orders almost every day afterwards, small orders.

Did Mr. Walker give you these orders almost every day afterwards?—Not always.

Who else did?—I cannot recollect.

Cannot you recollect the name of another person who gave you orders?—I cannot swear; I would not swear, because I cannot recollect any one else, though there were others.

Now, attend to my question, and answer it with deliberation; will you swear you do not recollect the name of any other person besides Mr. Walker who gave you the order to open your house?—Yes.

Will you swear that?—Yes.

How many other persons might have given you orders?—Not above one or two.

Will you swear you do not know the names of these one or two persons?—I could not recollect them.

On whose side were you?—On Mr. Goodricke's side.

Did you not trust Mr. Goodricke when you were advancing the money, and when you were supplying the ale and the spirits?—Mr. Walker.

Did you not know at that time he was Mr. Goodricke's agent?—I knew he was the friend of Mr. Goodricke.

Did you doubt he was acting for Mr. Goodricke?—No.

Did you not believe he was his agent at that time?—I could not say he was.

Did you not believe it?—I knew he was of Mr. Goodricke's party.

Did you not believe he was his agent at that time?—I knew he was one of Mr. Goodricke's party, and I trusted him; it was him I should look to for the money.

By a Lord.] What do you understand by the word "agent;" did you look to him that he would pay, or that he was employed by Goodricke?—I looked to Mr. Walker to pay what he ordered, and I did not look to anybody else.

What profession is Mr. Walker?—A land steward.

Mr. *Austin.*] I understood that Mr. Walker paid all the 60*l.* before?—Between 50*l.* and 60*l.*; I received none of any one else.

Is that all the money Mr. Walker paid you?—It is.

Is that all the money paid to you by anybody respecting the last election; recollect yourself?—I was paid a little by Mr. Chetwynd's party.

Now, before we come to Chetwynd, will you swear that was all the money that was paid to you or given to you on behalf of Mr. Goodricke's party?—Yes.

That was paid or given or came to your hand in any form?—That is all.

Is there any coming to you now?—No.

Is everything paid?—Yes.

Do you know where Mr. Goodricke's committee sat?—I believe at the Swan.

Were you there at any time?—No.

How did the voters know to come to your house who were in Goodricke's interest?—I do not know; voters of all parties came, and when there was any liquor they were served all alike.

What were your directions as to serving out liquor?—To let them have so much at a time.

Whom?—The burgesses.

How did they know your house was open?—They generally go round from house to house.

Was it notorious that your house was open?—No.

Was it not known in the town that your house was open?—Yes.

Was

George Nixon.

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Was it known to the voters that your house was open?—Of course it was, otherwise they would not have been there.

What other houses were open in the town?—I believe most houses were; I was never in any other.

Did you hear, during the election, that other houses were open in the town?—Yes.

Did you hear most of the houses were open in the town?—Yes, I heard most of them were.

Do you know that most of the houses were open in the town, and that drinking was going on during all the days on which the election took place,—Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday?—In some of the houses there was not any liquor; nor till they had an order to let anybody have it that liked.

Did you not know that all the houses were open part of the day for that purpose?—No.

Was it not notorious they were?—For the whole of the day?

For the whole of the day or any part of it?—For part, I believe they were.

Have you any doubt they were?—I have, not the whole day.

During the whole of the day or any part of the day, were they not open on all the days I have mentioned?—Yes, I heard so.

And that voters were drinking there?—I heard they were.

Was it not notorious they were?—It was generally said so.

Do you know the meaning of the word "notorious"?

Mr. *Whateley* objected to this question.

Was that the case during all the four days you have mentioned?—Yes it was.

The whole or part of them?—The whole or part of them it was.

Did it begin before the Saturday?—I believe it began on the Wednesday or Thursday.

You have told us that your house began at some time on the Wednesday, and was generally opened on the Thursday?—Yes.

Do I understand you to apply that to all the houses?—I cannot say of all; generally it was, I believe; I cannot say of all, as far as I heard.

Do you know the names of the houses in Stafford?—Yes, many of them.

Can you inform their Lordships of the names of some of the houses?—Yes.

Mention them?—There was the Fountain; there was the White Hart, the Castle, the Cock, the Goat, the Fox and George, and the Vine, the Oak, the King's Arms, the Elephant and Castle, the Trumpet, the Red Cow, the Plume of Feathers, the Waggon and Horses, the Jolly Crafts, the Talbot, the Down Partridge, the Unicorn; those are what I heard of.

Was it generally known in the town for whom those houses were opened?—Yes; it was generally known, but all parties used to go.

Was it generally known for whom they were open?—Yes.

That some were open for one party and some for another, is that so?—No; generally all parties went to each house.

Was it generally known in the town by whom they were opened?—No, I cannot say that it was generally; all parties used to go; all the candidates' friends used to go and give orders.

By a Lord.] Do you mean to say that all parties went indiscriminately to all the houses?—I do.

Mr. *Austin.*] Was that the case with your own house as well as with the rest?—Yes.

By whom was your bill paid, other than by Mr. Walker?—What I had of the others they generally left the money at the house at the time.

Who were those persons that left the money at your house at the time?—I cannot say, for I was not in at all times.

Were they voters?—Yes, I think they were.

In whose interest were they?—Goodricke and Chetwynd.

Now, understand me; were those persons who left money at the house at the time all in Captain Chetwynd's interest?—I believe when they came; but there was not more than one or two that left their money for the treat of the burgesses.

Was that the case during the whole of the election?—During the whole of the election.

In whose party were the rest?—Mr. Gronow's party never left me anything; though

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though Mr. Gronow's party used to come to partake; they mix with each other frequently.

Do you mean to say that persons were in your house who did not vote for Mr. Goodricke or Captain Chetwynd at all?—There was some.

Do you know it?—I was told so.

About how many?—I am sure I cannot say.

About how many?—I did not make any memorandum, and I really cannot tell.

What proportion of the whole number of persons were those who voted against Mr. Goodricke and Captain Chetwynd?—I cannot tell, for they did not come regularly; those that came one day did not come another.

Were there more than a very few that voted against those gentlemen?—Very few.

Did not the great majority of those at your house vote for Mr. Goodricke or Captain Chetwynd, or both?—They did.

Was not that the case with respect to the other houses?—I believe it was.

That is what you mean by saying that men of all parties came?—Yes; I served them all indiscriminately; it did not signify what party they were, when there was liquor for them.

Did I understand you to say just now that you had any money from Captain Chetwynd's friends?—Yes, a little for treating with.

By whom were you paid that money?—I really cannot tell; I had other business to attend to; and they generally left it in the bar, and said what it was for.

Was that left by those that had drink?—No, they had none.

Were you paid a sum of money on account of Captain Chetwynd by any particular person, or was the money paid by the voters themselves?—Not voters.

Who was the person who paid the sums of money on account of Captain Chetwynd?—John Wyn, I believe, gave a sum.

How much did he give you?—I cannot say, for I was not in at the time.

There was some left?—I never received any.

Was any money given to you, as having been left by Wyn?—Yes.

How much was given to you as having been left by him?—I think two sovereigns, one or two sovereigns.

Have you no better memory than that?—No; they did not give but little at a time.

Who else gave you any money as from Captain Chetwynd?—I believe George Wyn was the cause of my having some money, for the men grumbled that they had nothing to drink.

Did he give it to you?—No; he brought it to the house and left it.

Was it given to you?—My wife gave it to me afterwards.

How much?—I think 5 *l.*

That makes 7 *l.*?—Yes.

How much more had you left at your house or given to you on behalf of Captain Chetwynd's voters?—There was very little left.

How much?—I should think I had not above 10 *l.* or 15 *l.* in the whole.

Will you undertake to say that that is the whole you had from Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

By how many persons was that paid?—I was told those two brought them.

Had you any other money from any other candidate?—None.

Solely from Mr. Goodricke and Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

Did you see any tickets of any description?—I did not.

Any orders?—No orders; I never saw an order.

You saw nothing of that kind?—Nothing of that kind.

Did you ever see anybody else upon the subject of those payments besides Mr. Walker?—No, I did not.

Do you know Mr. Meason?—Yes.

Did you see him during the election?—Yes.

Where?—He was along with Mr. Walker sometimes; sometimes I saw him the same as I do on other days, in the street.

Had you any conversation with Mr. Walker whilst Mr. Meason was with him?—No, I had not.

Did you see him nowhere but in the streets with Mr. Walker?—I saw Mr. Meason at the Vine sometimes.

How

How many times might you be at the Vine?—I might be about four or five times.

Upon what occasions were you at the Vine?—When I went the first time it was about the money that they wished me to give their men as a treat.

That was on the Saturday night?—Yes.

When was the next time?—I was there on the Sunday.

How many times on the Sunday?—Once.

What time of day?—It was towards the evening.

And on the Monday how many times?—Not more than once, I think.

And on the Tuesday?—It might be once or twice.

About what business did you go to the Vine on the Sunday evening?—I went merely to have a glass of ale.

Whom did you see there?—There was Mr. Walker there.

Who else?—Mr. Clewlow was with him.

Who else?—A person who lives at Stourbridge.

What is his name?—He deals in glass; I do not know his name; he has nothing to do with elections.

Was there anybody else connected with elections?—No; I stopped but a short time.

What did you go about the next day?—To ask how they were going on.

Did you see the house open on those occasions?—There were people drinking in the house.

Did you see the house open on those occasions?—I understood they were drinking on free cost.

And you saw them there?—Yes; at least I heard them in the kitchen as I went by; I did not go amongst them.

Did you hear of a person in the town who was called the Dudley Devil?—Yes.

Was that name notorious in the town?—It was very commonly talked of.

Did you also know of a Mr. Roberts being in the town?—I might have heard of him, though I knew neither of the parties.

I asked you whether you heard of their being in the town?—Yes; I heard of a person of that name.

When did you first hear of a person called the Dudley Devil being in the town?—I do not know whether it was on the Saturday or Sunday or Monday. I never saw him; I heard talk of him.

Did you not hear talk of him before the election?—Yes, I did, frequently.

From whom did you hear talk of him; I do not mean a particular individual, but from what class of people?—Nearly all classes of people.

Whereabout did you hear this talk?—In my own house; and if ever I went out generally; if I met with anybody I heard of it.

Did you hear of him in the streets also?—Yes; it was in the streets principally, besides my own house, that I heard of it.

Was it not a matter of general conversation?—Yes, it was.

Was it notorious for what purpose that person was in Stafford; was it matter of general conversation for what purpose he was in Stafford?—He was treating different parties; I was told so.

That was matter of general converation, was it?—Yes.

Was it not matter of general conversation that he was bribing different parties?—I never heard that he was bribing any party.

But that he was treating parties?—Yes.

What did you understand by treating parties?—Leaving money for them to have liquor.

Was it a matter of general conversation for what purpose Roberts was in the town?—I never heard but little of him; I heard that there was such a person.

You did not hear much of him; not so much as of the other person?—No, I did not.

What was the nature of the general conversation with reference to Roberts?—I never heard much of him.

What was the nature of the conversation; what was it about?—I cannot say, for I never heard much about it; it was mostly about the other that I heard.

Were there any other persons said to be in the town, about whom there was said to be similar conversation?—No; I do not recollect any one.

For what party was it said that the Dudley Devil was leaving treating money?—As far as I ever heard, it was for all parties.

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Did you ever see the person who passed by this name?—No.

Are you certain of that?—Yes; I heard talk of him, but I never saw him.

Was he ever at your house?—No; I never heard talk of him being at my house.

Repeat your answer?—I never heard of his being at our house.

Are you certain of that?—Yes.

Is the last answer but one a correct answer; that you never heard talk of his being at your house?—I never heard him talked of as being at our house.

At what house did they talk of his being?—It was generally said that he went to most houses of the town.

Were you never in a house at the time he was there?—No, never.

Do you swear that?—Yes; I did not know him, and it was never named whilst I was with any one.

Was there any general conversation at the last election in Stafford about a person called "The Man in the Moon"?—I believe both was one person; as far as I understood, they called him "The Man in the Moon" and "The Dudley Devil" as well.

Did you hear talk of a person called "The Man in the Moon"?—Yes; I believe he was the same person.

For what purpose was he said to be there, when he was spoken of as "The Man in the Moon"?—He was going about treating; but I understood that the same person that they called "The Dudley Devil" they called "The Man in the Moon" as well.

That was also generally said, was it?—Yes.

Do you mean to say that you do not know who this Dudley Devil or Man in the Moon was?—I really do not.

Do you mean to repeat that?—I do.

Have you never heard since who he was?—I did hear once that his name was Holday; but where he came from I do not know.

Do you know Holday?—No; no further than what I have heard.

Is he a Stafford man?—No.

You do not know such a man in Stafford?—No.

Did you hear what his other name was besides Holday?—No.

Can you give us any information by which we can get at him?—No; I do not know his residence; I do not know anything further of him, except that his name is Holday.

You have told us that your own house continued open till Wednesday after the election; up to that time did others continue open?—I never heard that they were after the Wednesday.

Have you ever been present in Stafford at former elections without taking part in them?—Yes.

And have you observed the state of the people in Stafford at former elections, with respect to propriety?—If they can get liquor, they like.

Have you observed it?—Yes, I have.

Did you observe the state of the people, with reference to their sobriety, at the last election?—No, I did not observe much, besides what there was in my own house.

Are you sure of that?—Yes.

Do I understand you to say that you cannot inform their Lordships of the general state of the town, with respect to sobriety, during the election?—I think, during the election, in general men were very steady; I did not see so many intoxicated men as I have done formerly.

Did you see any intoxicated persons about?—Well, I might see some. Yes.

Were there not some that were intoxicated?—Very few in my own house.

Were there not a few?—Not but what they knew what they were doing of; the men behaved themselves very well.

Do you know whether any of the persons that were in your house went from your house to the poll?—No, I do not think they did; I had very few in the house at the time of polling.

They came in afterwards?—Some came in afterwards; but there being so many that came into the house I very seldom took notice who they were, to pay any attention to them.

Are you a voter yourself?—Yes.

Which

Which way did you vote at the last election?—I voted for Mr. Goodricke and Mr. Chetwynd.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whateley.

Is not your house a very well filled house?—Yes.

Is it the Blue Posts, near the court-house?—Yes.

Then I will ask you whether it is not notorious that your ale is the best ale in Stafford?—Yes, it has been represented so.

Have you not some clubs held at your house, which cause a great many persons to come there?—No, I have not any clubs.

Had you not at that time?—No.

You serve the judges of Assize, and all the gentlemen who attend them at the assizes?—I do.

Because yours is the best ale in Stafford?—There is no better, I believe, in Stafford, or anywhere else.

Is your house the best filled in Stafford?—It is quite as good as any one in Stafford.

I believe Stafford is rather celebrated for its ale?—Yes, pretty well; there are very few places that have better ale than they have in Stafford.

And Stafford men are pretty fond of drinking it, are they not?—Yes.

Can they take a good deal without being very drunk?—Some men can take it more than others.

You were asked whether the majority of the persons who drank at your house did not vote for Mr. Goodricke and Captain Chetwynd; do you know of your own knowledge how they voted?—I do not; I was not in court.

Were you in court during the time of the polling at all, except when you gave your own vote?—I was not.

How long were you present when you voted yourself?—Not more than five minutes.

Then, excepting that five minutes, have you any actual knowledge of how the parties voted at the election?—I have not, for I went and gave my vote and came out of the court again.

Did you ever know an election in your life, in any place, where there was not a good deal of drinking?—I never knew an election in Stafford.

Did you ever know of a place where there has not been a great deal of treating during an election?—Yes; at Newcastle there has been a great deal of treating.

Did you ever know one without it?—No.

Did you ever know a place where a poor man, if he could get a pint of ale, would not receive it?—No.

If I understand you rightly, there were a great many public houses open at this time in Stafford?—Yes.

And any person came and had ale?—Yes, either burgess or not burgess.

Did you make any inquiry before you gave a person liquor, whether he was a burgess, or intended to vote for a particular person?—No, never.

Do you mean that a great many persons, not burgesses, might come and have ale if they pleased?—Yes,

Then the ale was not given in reference to the vote that the parties were to give?—No, not at all; it was for anybody that liked to partake of it.

You say that the quantity of ale that you were paid for was not above 40 *l.*? No, I should think not.

With respect to this money that you distributed, you were applied to by Mr. Walker, I think?—Mr. Clewlow came to me.

Who is Clewlow?—An innkeeper, the same as myself.

Was the treating intended to be given to poor women of Stafford for tea?—Yes.

Before you gave this 5 *s.*, did you inquire of those poor women whether their husbands had votes, or whether their husbands would vote for a particular candidate?—Never.

Do you mean that any poor woman whom you met at Stafford, if she would accept the 5 *s.*, you gave it to?—Yes.

Throughout the district that you had, Belmont, Vine-street, and the Back Wall?—Yes.

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Was anything at all said at the time you gave this money about the voting, or the way that their husbands were to vote?—No.

Or whether their husbands had a vote at all?—No; I did not ask them.

Did you give to women whose husbands had no votes?—To some I believe I did.

To any who had no husbands at all?—Yes.

How did you make the inquiry, or had you a list to direct you?—I had a list in which there was a very few.

How many were there on the list?—I should think there would be 20 on the list; but I found more in the district, and I went on without the list.

You went on giving to about 80?—Yes.

Were all the persons you gave to in a low situation of life?—All of them.

What you would call very poor persons, would you?—Yes.

I think I understood you to say, that at the last election for Stafford there was much less drunkenness than you had known upon former occasions?—I never saw so little.

Do you believe that there was a great improvement in the morals and manners of the people since the former elections?—I really think there was.

Do you think that there was a desire amongst persons to cultivate a better feeling and better spirit?—Well, I thought so.

Was it not notorious in Stafford, to use my learned friend's word, that parties wished the election to be conducted upon pure principles?—Yes, it was.

Did you ever hear of money being given for a single vote, except to some poor persons, that voted for Captain Gronow?—No, I never did.

Do you believe that no bribe was ever given to any voter, except for voting for Captain Gronow?—I do not believe that there was; at least I never heard of anything of the kind.

Are there not a great many respectable shopkeepers, and persons of property residing in the town, who have no votes?—A great many.

Shopkeepers, and householders, and persons in a respectable station of life?—Yes.

Do you believe that those persons would accept anything for giving a vote?—No; I do not believe that they would.

Were you ever engaged personally in any former election?—No.

Were your services upon this occasion confined merely to giving those *5s.* tickets, and to serving beer to persons in your own house?—I had nothing more to do with it.

Mr. Gifford of Chillington is a person of large property and consideration in the county of Stafford, is he not?—He is.

And Mr. Walker is his land steward?—He is.

Also a person of property and respectability?—He is.

Re-examined by Mr. Austin.

You had a list, had you?—It was a short one.

But there was a list?—Yes; it was a short one.

Who gave you that list?—I made part of it out myself before I started.

Who made the other part?—I think Mr. Walker was by at the time; and we were considering to give a few; but I found that the part that I was speaking of, that it was not near enough.

You were considering, at the time the list was making, to give a few; you and Mr. Walker?—Mr. Clewlow was with me; Mr. Walker did not know anything of them.

Was Mr. Walker by when the list was made out?—Yes; he sat at the table.

Did he know why that list was made out?—He knew that we were giving them *5s.* for a treat.

Did he know that you were making out a list?—He might have seen that we were writing.

Have you any doubt that he knew that you were making out the list?—I have not a doubt that he knew we had something to go by.

Do not you know that Mr Walker knew that you were making out a list at the time?—Mr. Clewlow asked me to go with him; it was arranged what we should do; and it was put on a piece of paper.

Do not you know that Mr. Walker was aware that you were making out a list

list at the time of your writing it?—I should consider that he might think we were doing so.

Do not you know that Mr. Walker was aware that you were making out a list at the time of your writing it?—I cannot say, because I did not name it to him.

Have you any doubt that he knew that you were making out that list?—I cannot say that I have a doubt, because he sat there.

Do not you know that he was aware of it?—Mr. Walker was at the table where we were, and we were making out the list at the time.

Is that the last answer you wish to give to that question?—I should wish to give the best answer that I can.

Do not you know that Mr. Walker was aware of it?—He was aware what we were doing of.

Do not you know that Mr. Walker was aware that you were making out a list?—I should consider that he did know, because we were at the same table; he was at one end and we at the other.

When you were making out the list were not names mentioned by Clewlow and you?—Yes, between ourselves; I cannot say that we mentioned any in his hearing.

Were not names mentioned between you and Clewlow?—Yes, between ourselves.

Were they not frequently?—Yes.

Will you swear that Mr. Walker never mentioned a name; will you swear that?—He never mentioned a name in my hearing; I will swear that.

Will you swear that he never interfered in making that list?—Yes.

You will?—Yes.

How many names were put down in it?—I should think from 10 to 18; it might be 20, or more.

Why were those put down in that list?—The reason was, that I did not consider there were so many where I should go.

What parties were those whose names were put in the list, burgesses or householders?—They were for the burgesses' wives.

You suggested some, and Clewlow others; is that so?—Yes

Why did not you tell me, when I was examining you before, that you had made out this list?—It was part of the list.

Why did you not tell me that you had made out a list?—It was an omission of mine, not from any unwillingness in giving the answer.

Did Mr. Walker know how much was to be given to the persons whose names were in the list?—He did.

He knew that 5*s.* was to be given?—Yes.

Did he also know that your house was open at the time?—Yes.

Was that when you were cultivating a better principle and feeling, and acting upon pure principles; was that the time you refer to when you state that?—Yes; I did not consider a treat as a bribe.

You have been asked as to the state of the constituency of Stafford; do you know how many voters there are now in Stafford; are there 900?—I think 1,000 or 1,100.

Do you not know that the 10*l.* householders are 340?—No; I cannot say.

And that the rest are of the old constituency?—They are the old constituency; I do not know of how many they consist.

Do not you know that the larger majority are of the old constituency?—Yes.

Who acquire their right to vote by apprenticeship and birth?—Yes.

Examined by the House.

You say that when you gave that money to the burgesses' wives you did not state any reason for it?—Not at all.

What was your object in giving it?—I told them that I was going to give it to them to get a cup of tea with.

What was your object in giving the money?—It was thought that the men, being off from their work, would be bad off, and it was given them to get a cup of tea with.

What was Mr. Walker's object in giving money to the burgesses' wives?—I cannot say, excepting to support the party that he was taking.

To support the party that he was favouring?—I should suppose so.

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Did not the burgesses' wives suppose so also?—The burgesses' wives asked me where it came from, and I said it did not signify; it was to get a cup of tea with.

Did they not know from what party it came?—They did not at the time I gave it.

You do not suppose that it was concealed from them very studiously?—No; they must know afterwards which party I was; I never was with Mr. Goodricke before.

They must know afterwards from what party it came?—They must know what party I was afterwards; I had not taken any part before.

You said you did not consider a treat a bribe; which do you consider the *5 s.*, a treat or a bribe?—A treat.

What do you consider a bribe?—Where a person is offered money to give a vote for a certain person.

Do not you consider the *5 s.* money?—Yes.

Then when *5 s.* is given it is a bribe, if money given is a bribe?—There was nothing named of any party whatever, and nothing named about voting at the time.

Did the House understand you to say you never knew any respectable people in Stafford who would accept money for their votes?—Yes; I have known some most respectable people of the town that would not.

Do you know any that would?—There are some that have done it, I believe.

Do you know of any respectable person at Stafford at the last election that did?—I never heard of one.

You have stated that the burgesses were treated in your house, and in the other houses at Stafford; were many women among them?—Yes, there were some.

The same women who came to the houses; were the *5 s.* given to any of those women?—There was, I believe; but there was not any that I gave them to; they were women that came from other parts of the town.

Was the *5 s.* given to the women in consideration of their not partaking of the treat which was given to the men?—Not at all; it was a treat for themselves.

Was it in consideration that the men were treated, and that you would have considered the women to be ill-treated if they did not get something?—We considered that the women would be ill-treated if they did not get something, on account of their husbands being out of work for a long time before the election, doing nothing, and they were very much distressed.

You said that at your house you served all parties alike with drink; how did you distinguish to which party you were to charge the different refreshments that you gave those persons?—That was the party that gave me orders to serve so much drink I made my account out to.

You had orders from Mr. Walker, had you not, to give drink?—Yes.

Had you also small sums of money left by other persons to be given in drink to the burgesses?—Yes.

When a burgess came in and received drink, how did you know to which account to put it?—I never asked them.

Did you not ask them to whom their drink was to be charged?—No.

How did you charge it?—I let every one in the house have as much as they liked as long as it lasted.

And when it was out did you charge Mr. Walker?—No.

As long as there was money you put what was taken by the burgesses against the money; when there was no money did you charge it against Mr. Walker?—I had orders to let the men have so much liquor, and then when the money was out they paid for it themselves.

From whom had you orders to let the men have the liquor?—From Mr. Walker.

From whom had you orders on the part of Captain Chetwynd?—There was one or other that came and left the money.

Was that before the men had received the liquor?—Yes.

Then how did you know who were the men entitled to liquor out of that money?—We let those have that were not burgesses.

How did you know which of the persons were entitled to the money?—We

We never made no distinction; it did not signify which candidate they belonged to.

How did you know which of those were to have drink paid for by Mr. Walker?—They all partook.

Did any other candidates pay?—I had not any one besides at my house.

Besides Mr. Chetwynd and Mr. Goodricke?—I had no others at my house.

Had you other voters of the other candidate occasionally at your house?—Yes, I believe there was.

Did you let them have liquor at the expense of Mr. Goodricke and Captain Chetwynd?—Yes; sometimes they might.

Was it known that your house was open for Sir Francis Goodricke's voters and Captain Chetwynd's?—The men generally go round to see where there is liquor, and where there is any, there they stop; but at last I had not any for them.

How came you not to have more for them?—Because they generally stop.

Till they drank your liquor?—No; as long as the orders last.

Were the orders given every day?—Yes.

What were the orders given on the Saturday?—I cannot say, except that I made a memorandum.

That you were to give so much ale?—No; so much money's worth of ale.

An order came from Sir F. Goodricke to that effect?—No.

From Mr. Walker, the friend of Sir F. Goodricke?—Yes.

So much money was left by the friends of Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

Had you no order from him?—It was known to be the friends of the party.

No other candidate?—No.

Then any person that came in, whether he was friendly to those candidates or any other candidate, he drank out of this money?—Yes, as long as the order lasted.

You were asked whether they were voters?—There were a vast many that I did not know.

You knew a great many that came from your house?—There were a vast many I did not know.

Did you know who they would vote for?—I never asked them.

Those 5 *s.* you said you gave to burgesses' wives, and to every poor person that you met?—No, not every poor person that I met; they were generally old people.

They were old women, but wives of the burgesses?—Most of them.

It was intended only for the wives of the burgesses, was it?—For the wives of the burgesses; but there were some that were not.

But the money was intended for the wives of the burgesses?—Yes.

Therefore when you gave it to others, it was out of some compassion that you felt, and from them being so badly off?—I saw them in such a distressed state; they asked me for it.

How many were there?—Some few.

Eight out of 88?—Yes.

The rest of the 88 were burgesses' wives?—Yes.

And it had no reference to the vote?—No, not at all.

It was mere charity?—Yes.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off to Thursday next, at Three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Jovis, 23° Junii 1836.

THE Order of the Day being read for the further Consideration and Second Reading of the Bill, intituled "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford in the County of Stafford from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their Counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their Petition:

Counsel were accordingly called in.

Then *Joseph Clewlow* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

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Mr. *Austin.*] Do you live at Stafford?—I do.

How long have you lived at Stafford?—Fifty years.

What is your business?—An innkeeper and farmer.

What is the name of the inn that you have kept?—The Three Tuns.

How long have you kept that?—Twenty years, very nearly.

Was yours one of the houses open at the last election?—Yes.

When was your house opened?—As soon as the election commenced.

On what day was that?—I believe the Thursday before the polling-day.

How long did it continue open?—Till the election closed.

What day was that?—I believe the 6th or 7th of January.

What day of the week?—Tuesday.

I understand, then, that your house was open on the Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday; six days?—Yes.

By whom was your house opened?—I drawed for all parties almost; for Mr. Goodricke chiefly.

Who gave you the orders to open your house?—Mr. Walker.

When did Mr. Walker give you the order?—On the Thursday before the election.

What order did he give you?—To supply the burgesses with some ale; the voters.

Which was it?—The burgesses and voters.

Was it to supply the burgesses alone, or the voters generally?—All the voters.

Was anything said about the extent to which they should be supplied?—No.

Nor about money?—No.

Did you accordingly supply them?—Yes, my family did.

They were supplied in your house?—Yes.

What had they?—They had ale and some little spirits, and something to eat sometimes.

At what time on Thursday did they begin drinking?—At eight or nine o'clock, I suppose.

Did they drink all day?—They were in and out all day.

Till how late at night?—Perhaps 12 o'clock at night.

Had you breakfast for them?—No, I never got any breakfast.

Any dinner?—No.

Was it supper, then?—No, they had nothing to eat; only sometimes steaks cut in the course of the day.

For how many voters were steaks provided?—Thirty or forty sometimes.

Do you mean that 30 or 40 had steaks together?—No, in the course of the day.

Did that happen every day?—Not exactly every day.

On what day had you no steaks supplied?—Saturday was one day particularly, when there were steaks.

Tell me one day when there were any steaks supplied?—Neither of the polling-days.

Who paid you for this?—Mr. Walker.

When?—Some little while after the election.

Did you send the bill in to him?—Yes.

When?—As soon as the election was over; I believe the same day.

Did

Did you send the bill in to anybody else?—No.

Do you keep a book of your business?—Not the electioneering business.

Do you keep a book of your regular business?—Yes.

How did you make out that bill if you had no book of the electioneering business?—My wife put it down upon a board.

And it was afterwards rubbed out?—It was.

So that you have no minute of what was supplied during the election?—No.

Did you keep a copy of the bill you sent out?—No, I did not.

How did you head the bill?—To the friends of Sir Francis Goodricke; I believe he was Mr. Goodricke then.

Ale and spirits, and so forth?—Yes.

And you charged the sum in that way?—Yes.

And you charged the whole sum in that way?—Yes.

What was the sum that you charged?—I think about 40 *l.*

Was it under 50 *l.*?—Yes, it was.

When were you paid?—Some little time after the election.

By whom?—By Mr. Walker.

How did he pay you?—In 5 *l.* notes.

Not in a cheque?—No.

Is that all the money you had from Mr. Walker?—No.

What other sums did you have from Mr. Walker?—I was instructed by Mr. Walker to give the women something to drink.

Is that 40 *l.* or 50 *l.* all you have had for drinking that went on in your house?—Yes.

How many persons might drink in your house during the days you mentioned?—I think 100, or more.

Will you swear that there were not 100 people every day in your house in the course of the election?—In the course of the day.

Will you swear that there were not 200 people in your house every day?—Yes.

On what day?—On no day.

What is the smallest number you will venture to state to their Lordships were ever present in one day in your house?—Perhaps 50.

Will you venture to state that there was no day in which there were not 150 voters in your house?—Never a day; not any day of the election.

You have stated that there were 100 voters in your house on each day of the election?—Not each day; on some days.

On what days were there 100 voters?—Saturday there was the most of any.

Will you swear there were not 200 voters in your house on Saturday?—No.

What number?—About 100; there was never more than 100, I believe.

Did the same persons come in twice or more during the same day?—Yes, many did.

By a *Lord.*] In stating the number to be 100, when you say that 100 were in your house in the course of the day, do you include in that the repeated visits of those that came several times, or do you mean 100 distinct individuals?—I mean the repeated times.

Mr. *Austin.*] Will you swear that on Saturday there were not 100 distinct individuals in your house in the course of the day?—I will.

How many were there?—There was not more than 100 on that day; about 100; but I did not take a calculation.

Why did you not take a calculation of those things?—It is impossible.

Why did not you keep an account of the electioneering expenses?—We had other people's expenses at the same time.

Why did not you enter it in the book; why did you efface the entry of it as soon as the thing was over?—I never keep those things.

Why do you not?—Because I am paid directly after I send in my account, as soon as it is over.

You have stated that the order was unlimited?—Yes.

To supply voters with as much ale as they asked?—Yes.

Did you supply them with as much ale as they asked?—Yes, my family did.

Whether they came once or twenty times in the course of the day you supplied

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plied them with whatever they demanded?—The always had what they asked for.

That was according to the orders of Mr. Walker?—Yes.

No doubt about it?—Not the least.

Have you been engaged in the electioneering business at former elections?—A little; I have always had something to do with elections.

You always had your house open?—Yes.

Have you always been paid in the same way?—Sometimes I never got paid at all.

You distributed some of the tickets?—No tickets.

You distributed sums of 5 *s.*?—I did.

To whom did you make that distribution?—To the burgesses' wives and voters' wives.

Which was it?—Some few of the voters I paid as well.

And the rest the wives of the burgesses?—Yes.

Which was your district?—In the Broad-eye and Snow-hill.

Is that a parish?—They are two parishes; they are both in St. Mary's-hill.

Who assigned you that district?—Mr. Walker.

Where did you see Mr. Walker for that purpose?—At the Vine Inn.

On what day?—The Friday.

By whose desire did you go to the Vine Inn?—I believe Mr. Walker met me himself.

Whom did you meet there?—Mr. Walker, Mr. Morris and Mr. Meeson.

Morris is landlord of the inn?—A son of the landlord.

Who is Mr. Meeson?—A shoe-manufacturer.

On whose behalf was Mr. Meeson there?—Mr. Goodricke's.

Did he speak and act as if he were acting for Mr. Goodricke?—He did.

Was he in Mr. Goodricke's interest at the election?—Yes.

Do you know where the Committee sat for Mr. Goodricke?—I do not.

You do not know whether Meeson was a committee-man?—I do not.

What did you meet at the Vine for?—I believe I made a complaint to Mr. Walker, that the women were grumbling that they had not some tea; they had been complaining to me.

What was that meeting about?—On that purpose.

Was any money given to you to distribute?—Yes.

How much?—I believe 15 *l.*

Who gave you that?—Mr. Walker

When?—On the Saturday morning.

Is that all he gave you for that purpose?—Yes.

Is that all you expended upon that purpose?—No.

How much did you expend upon that?—I think 40 *l.*

In addition to the 15 *l.*—No.

Did you expend 40 *l.* or 50 *l.*?—£.40.

Is that the exact sum?—I believe 40 *l.* 5 *s.*

Then you spent 25 *l.* odd more than was given to you on the Saturday morning?—Yes.

Where did you get that again?—From Mr. Walker.

Did you put it in the Bill?—I did not.

Did you put it upon paper?—No.

Did you give him any voucher?—No; I gave him the account altogether.

And thereupon he paid you?—Yes; he gave me a cheque upon the bank for it.

What bank was that?—I believe Mr. Webb's bank.

Are you certain?—Yes.

Did you present the cheque yourself?—Yes.

What bank was it?—Mr. Webb's, but Mr. Nixon's money was in the same cheque; we both received it together.

What were your directions as to the 15 *l.* upon the Friday night?—It was Saturday morning when we got the directions.

From whom?—Mr. Walker.

What were his directions?—To give it to those women that I thought were in want of a cup of tea, to make them comfortable.

To whom?—To the burgesses' wives; I gave it to several that were not burgesses'

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burgesses' wives; to several that were well-wishers; I gave them 5 *s.* to enjoy themselves with.

Do you know the burgesses?—A great many of them.

And the voters in general in Broad-eye and Snow-hill?—Generally I do.

Was it for that reason that you were selected to distribute in those districts?—No; I believe that I spoke to Mr. Walker about it.

Had you spoken to him about it because you knew those voters best?—Yes.

You took that district, and Nixon took another?—Yes; I applied to Mr. Nixon to assist me in it.

Whom did you see when you distributed the money?—The wives of the burgesses.

Did you do it with your own hand?—Yes.

Did anybody else engage in it?—Not that I know of.

You went to the house where you knew a burgess lived?—Yes.

When you went to this house, what did you do?—I asked for the woman of the house, and gave her the money; and if she was not in I left it with the elder children.

What did you say?—I told them that it was to enjoy themselves with a cup of tea, being Christmas time.

And being about the election time?—Yes.

Would you have given the money if there had been no election to take place at that time?—No.

Did you give the money because it was election time, or because it was Christmas time?—Because it was election time, of course.

Was this on the Saturday night that you distributed the money?—Yes.

Did you give any after Saturday night?—Some on Sunday.

In the evening also?—Most of the day on Sunday; I could not see them all on Saturday.

Were you occupied a good deal on Sunday about it?—Yes.

And some on the Mooday?—None on the Monday.

It had been all finished on the Sunday night?—Yes.

Do you know on which side those burgesses and voters gave their votes for the most part, who drank in your house?—I do not.

There were no colours there at the last election?—Nothing of the sort.

Were any healths drunk?—No; I did not hear any.

No toasts given?—No.

On which side did the burgesses vote to whose wives you gave the 5 *s.*?—Which way they pleased; I do not know anything about it; I never asked the question.

With respect to the burgesses' wives, do you recollect making out a list?—I never did.

Do you recollect a list being made out?—I believe there was a list made out.

Did you see it?—I saw some paper upon the table with names upon it.

Was Mr. Walker there at the time?—He was.

Was the list lying on the table?—Yes.

Did you know what they were about?—This list was to give to those people; but I told him that I must give it to everybody that would have it, or else it was of no use giving it to one unless I gave it to all that would accept of it.

Did he assent to that?—Yes.

Was that list made out before you made that observation to Mr. Walker?—It was.

Was the list thrown by in consequence of those observations?—Yes.

You thought the list not extensive enough?—I did.

Who had been making out that list?—I believe Mr. Walker, Mr. Meeson and Mr. Morris; they were together at the time.

And did they all hear what you said to Mr. Walker about the list?—They did.

Then there is no doubt that they knew what the lists were about?—I believe they did.

Was Nixon there at that time?—He was not.

You do not happen to know what became of those lists?—No.

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Do you know the names of the burgesses and voters contained in them?—No.

Do you know which way they voted?—No.

Do you know whether anybody else distributed the 5 *s.* besides you and Nixon?—I did not see anybody.

Was not it well known in Stafford during the election, and upon the three days before the election, that the houses were opened in the town?—Yes.

It was notorious in the place?—No; it was but a few houses that had the order.

Was not it well known in the place that the houses were opened?—I cannot say; I know of none but my own.

Did you not know that other houses were open?—I did not.

Do you mean to say you had no reason to know that any other house was open but your own?—Yes, I do.

Did you not know that Nixon's house was open?—It was not open at this time.

At what time?—When mine was.

Did you not know that there were other houses open in the town upon the Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday?—I did not know it.

Do you mean to say that on Sunday you had no reason to know that any other house was open in the town?—I had no reason, and I did not know it.

Do you know the Fountain Inn?—I do.

Was that open?—Not that I know.

Who keeps the Fountain Inn?—I do not know who keeps it.

Do you know the White Hart?—I do.

Was that open?—Not that I know.

Who keeps it?—Sharrott.

The Castle?—Mrs. Bentley.

Was that open?—Not that I know of.

The Cock; who keeps that?—Mr. Ward.

The Goat?—Mr. Clear.

The Fox and the George?—Bishop.

The Elephant and Castle?—Mr. Shaw.

The Oak?—Draper.

The King's Arms?—I think Ford.

Were those open, any of them?—Not that I know of.

Do you mean to say that you do not know that any of those houses were opened?—I do; I know nothing about it.

Where were you during the election?—I was about my own business: my farming business.

Were you about the town?—Generally.

Do you mean to say that you did not hear the general talk of the town, that houses were open?—I never heard a word of it.

Have you ever heard since that they were open?—No.

For aught you know, then, they might not have been open?—Yes.

Do you mean to state that?—I do.

Were you paid by anybody else besides Mr. Walker?—No.

At no time since the election?—No; I was paid my account after the election.

Did anybody else pay you any money besides Mr. Walker?—No.

You have said that you did not hear it generally spoken of in the town that the houses were open; was it generally known in the town that those 5 *s.* were distributed?—I believe it was; it could not be kept a secret.

Have you any doubt that it was generally known?—No, I have not.

Did you hear, in the course of general conversation in the town, that there was such a person as the Dudley Devil in the town?—Yes.

Also a person called the Man in the Moon?—Yes; that was one name; I believe it was all one person.

Was it stated for what purpose he was in the town?—I never heard what business he was upon; I heard he was treating.

Did you ever see him?—I did.

Where did you see him?—I saw him in my own house, the only time I believe I did see him.

What day was that?—Saturday morning.

How

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How long was he in your house?—About a quarter of an hour.
What time in the morning?—About 10 o'clock.
What did he say to you?—He came and asked me if I would cook 20 lbs. of beefsteaks for a party that came with him: I said I would.
Was that in your account?—That was not in the account; he gave me a sovereign to give the party to drink.
Who paid for the beefsteaks?—He sent them in by the butcher.
Did you supply them with any liquor?—Yes; what they liked.
They called for as much as they pleased to drink?—Yes.
Who paid for that?—He gave me a sovereign.
How long did the party of men stay there?—There were both women as well as men. Some of them did not stop long.
Do you know for whom they voted?—No.
Did you know any of their names?—No.
Were they burgesses?—Burgesses and burgesses' wives, and some voters and some not voters.
Mention the name of any person who was not a voter?—I do not know that I can; I believe I cannot.
Will you undertake to swear that there was one person there that was not a voter?—No.
You understand the question?—Yes.
Did you see this person upon any other occasion?—I have seen him in the street.
What is his name?—I do not know.
Nor where he lives?—No.
Nor anything about him, but that you saw him upon that occasion?—No.
What sort of person was he?—A smallish man.
Should you know him if you saw him again?—I think not.
Have you any means of enabling us to get at him?—No; I do not know anything about him.
Are you sure that you cannot find him?—Yes. I know nothing about him.
Was he a Stafford man?—No; I should have known him, if he had been.
Did you see a Mr. Roberts?—Not to the best of my knowledge; I never heard his name before.
You say you knew Mr. Meeson; did you know Mr. Holyoake?—Yes.
Did you see him during the election?—Yes.
Where?—In my house and at the Swan.
How often did you see him in your house?—They frequently came in to see the burgesses at the time of the election.
Who do you mean by "they"?—The parties.
What parties?—All parties; they came round to solicit votes.
Who?—Mr. Goodricke and Holyoake, and Mr. Walker and Mr. Charles Gifford.
Did Mr. Holyoake come with Mr. Goodricke?—Yes.
Did Walker come with Mr. Goodricke?—Yes.
And Mr. Gifford?—Yes.
They came canvassing in company, did they?—Yes.
Who did you see at the Swan?—Mr. Holyoake and Mr. Goodricke, and Mr. Gifford and Mr. Walker.
In the committee-room?—I never was in the commitee-room.
Where was the committee-room?—I do not know.
Up stairs or below?—I believe it was up stairs.
By a *Lord.*] At what house?—The Swan Inn.
Mr. *Austin.*] You did not go up stairs yourself?—No.
Were there people up and down upon the staircase?—Yes.
As if they were going up and down into the room?—Yes.
Did you see Mr. Holyoake go up stairs?—No.
Was Meeson at the Swan?—No; he was chiefly at the Vine.
You saw Mr. Holyoake at the Vine?—I do not know that I did.
You saw Mr. Walker there?—Yes.
Did you see Mr. Gifford at the Vine?—I think not.
Did you know a Mr. Painter?—Yes.
Did you see him at the Swan?—I did not.

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Where did you see him during the election?—I do not think I ever saw him at all.

Are you sure of that?—I believe I did not.

Were you at the poll at all?—Yes; on the Monday I polled myself.

How long were you at the poll on that day?—I was not five minutes in court.

Were you at the poll on any other part of that day?—No.

Had you any conversation at the poll?—No.

You only went up to give your vote?—Yes.

You did not know what was taking place at the poll?—No.

Had you any conversation with voters in the street as to how the election was going on?—We generally asked how the poll was going on: nothing further.

Are you sure you were never in the committee-room yourself?—I never was.

Where was Captain Chetwynd's committee?—At the George.

Mr. Farrand's?—I think at the Star; but I am not certain.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whateley.

At the time you distributed the 5 *s.* you have mentioned, did you say anything about voting?—I did not.

Did you say anything at all about the person from whom it came?—No, I did not.

Did you in any manner refer the giving the 5 *s.* to their husbands' votes, or use it in any manner to influence their voting?—I did not.

Did not you at first suggest the expediency of giving 5 *s.* to the wives of poor burgesses?—I did.

Had the men been off work and drinking a considerable number of days at that time?—They had.

Did that in any degree influence your opinion that it would be right to do something for them?—I did it merely for that occasion.

Was the 5 *s.* that you gave distributed to the burgesses' wives generally, or the burgesses' wives that you had a reason to believe voted for any particular candidate?—I gave it to every one that would accept it.

I understood you to say that you gave the money to the wives of some that were not voters?—I did to some that were no voters at all.

Why did you give it to them?—Because they were neighbours, and they had sons that were voters.

And were also in need?—Yes.

Did you in any manner give this money to influence them to vote for any particular candidate?—I did not.

Did you know when you gave this money, whether they had been solicited to vote for any particular candidate?—I did not.

Had you any means of ascertaining whether they had promised either the one candidate or the other?—I had not.

You were asked whether you kept any election accounts; you said that you did not. How many persons does your family consist of?—My wife, and two sons and two daughters, that are capable of doing business.

Do they all assist in your business?—They do.

During the election your house was pretty well thronged?—It was.

And probably all of you employed in serving liquor to the customers?—All of us at times.

And the person that served the liquor made a score on a board of what they had served?—They did.

When was that cast up?—After the election was over.

From that you made the bill, which you delivered to Mr. Walker?—Yes.

In other respects, is the trade that you carry on generally a ready money trade?—Yes.

Do you enter in a book all the liquor you serve?—I never enter any that I draw; it is generally paid.

What is the book that you do keep?—I keep none but for my farming business.

But not with respect to the retail trade of drawing beer?—No.

You say that Mr. Holyoake, Mr. Goodricke, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Gifford came to your house?—Yes.

Did

Did other parties also go round with other candidates, and call at the different public houses?—Yes.

Did other parties call at your house as well as Mr. Goodricke's party?—Yes, they did; that is, two of the parties. Three of the parties called.

Captain Chetwynd and Captain Gronow?—Not Captain Gronow's; Mr. Farrand's.

Did Mr. Walker give you an order to open your house upon the Thursday before the election?—He did.

Was any restriction given only to serve ale to those that had promised a particular candidate?—None at all.

Were you very particular in inquiring whether the person that asked for ale was a voter?—No; I asked no question at all.

Then any man coming in and calling for liquor would be served?—If he came with any burgess he would.

If a burgess came in with a couple of friends, and called for a quart of ale, it would be furnished?—It would.

And no question asked whether he had promised one candidate or another?—No; I never asked the question.

And there were no colours worn?—None.

Is it your belief, from your knowledge of the borough of Stafford, that the last election was conducted upon better principles than formerly?—A great deal.

Do you believe that at the last election many persons voted merely from a sense of their duty?—I am sure of it.

Have you any reason to think that persons, even in the lower class of life, would not have received money if they could have had it?—A good many might have had it if they would have received it.

From which party?—From Mr. Gronow.

Did you hear of any party, excepting Captain Gronow, giving any money at the last election for votes?—I did not.

When you were about at the election, were you ever asked for a single shilling, or applied to by any person to give money for a vote?—I was not.

Was it a matter of common conversation in Stafford that money had been offered, and refused by burgesses and voters?—Yes.

Is it your opinion that the constituency of Stafford has improved since the election of 1832?—Very greatly.

You have no doubt of that, speaking as a respectable man of the borough of Stafford?—I speak the fact; I speak the truth.

Are there a good many respectable shopkeepers and tradesmen now voters for Stafford since the Reform Bill?—Not a very great many.

Are there more persons in a better station of life?—There are a good many more; there were a good many burgesses shopkeepers before.

Is it your opinion that there are a great number of persons that would not give their vote for money?—I am certain of it.

Do you think there are several hundreds?—I think three parts of them would not vote for money.

Do you then think that the burgesses of Stafford entertained political opinions?—Not much, I think; I do not think they concern themselves much about political opinions.

Supposing there was a Tory candidate and a Whig candidate in Stafford, which would have the best chance?—I cannot say.

Should you think it would depend upon the length of the purse, or upon the popularity of the candidate?—Upon the popularity of the candidate.

At the last election, do you think any sum of money would have brought in Captain Gronow?—Not a boat-load would not.

Is it your opinion that at the last election Mr. Goodricke and Captain Chetwynd were the favourites of the people of Stafford upon principle?—Yes.

Captain Chetwynd is connected with a very old family in the county; he is brother of Sir George Chetwynd, and has a house within three miles of Stafford?—Yes; Sir George represented the town before.

And was chairman of the quarter sessions?—Yes.

Sir Francis Goodricke's father lived in the county?—Yes.

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Are you old enough to recollect when Colonel Monckton represented the town?—Yes.

He is a gentleman whose son now possesses a fine place eight miles from Stafford?—About 11.

When he represented the town, do you believe that any adventurer coming from London with money could have turned him out?—I believe not.

He resigned his seat when he got old and infirm?—He did.

Is it your belief that those who received money at the last election from Captain Gronow were persons in a low situation of life and needy?—They were chiefly Dissenters that received the money.

Were they chiefly persons in a low situation of life?—A good many of them were, but not all.

There were no respectable shopkeepers and tradesmen among them?—No.

Is it your opinion that those persons were considered as disgraced by the better part of the constituency?—They are still.

Do you believe that they were looked down upon, even by others in their own condition of life?—They were, and are now.

Is it your opinion that a better spirit prevails in the borough of Stafford now than did some years ago?—Yes; than ever I knew it.

Do you remember the bribery oath being administered at the last election? I do.

Who proposed that the bribery oath should be administered?—I cannot say.

You were not present?—I was not.

Re-examined by Mr. Austin.

You are of opinion that the constituency has improved there?—I am.

When did it begin to improve?—It had begun to be improved some time before the last election.

In what year did it begin to be improved?—I believe in 1832.

Immediately after the election of 1832?—Yes.

Was not everybody bought in 1832?—No.

Do you believe that the election of 1832 was not bought?—I believe it was not.

Perhaps you believe that no election has been bought in Stafford?—I think not.

That elections have never been bought there?—Yes.

When did you first begin to observe a symptom of improvement in the town?—In 1832.

You have been answering questions as to the better principles prevailing in the town; what do you mean by saying that better principles prevail in the town?—Because the poor men will not vote for money now.

When did you first begin to observe it?—At the last election more than any other.

Did you ever observe it at any other election?—No, I do not know that I did.

Did you see money offered at the last election?—No.

You say that you yourself were never applied to for money at the last election; did they apply for money to you before?—No.

You have never been engaged in that occupation?—No.

You say that the electors who took money at the last election were considered to be disgraced; on what account were they considered to be disgraced?—For receiving money.

Is treating considered disgraceful at present in Stafford?—No.

Then amongst those persons who entertain better principles, and who vote from their consciences, would you enumerate some of those who ate and drank at your house; do you call them conscientious and respectable voters?—Yes.

And the husbands of the women to whom you gave 5 *s.*?—Yes.

That is the class of people whom you describe as influenced by better principles than formerly?—Yes.

You do not consider that treating implies badness of principle?—No.

Either giving 5 *s.* or taking it?—No.

Or giving drink or taking it?—No.

Then

Then by a return to better principles you mean leaving off taking bribes in the gross for votes?—Yes.

Do you know how many shopkeepers who were not voters before have been added to the register by the Reform Bill?—I do not.

Do you know what proportion the old burgesses still bear to the whole number of voters?—No.

You say that you first suggested the 5 *s.* to be paid to the burgesses' wives; was not the list made out when you suggested the 5 *s.*?—No; it was the Friday night I suggested it, and on Saturday morning a list was made out.

What do you mean by saying that persons who took bribes were chiefly Dissenters; do you mean that they were religious Dissenters?—Yes.

Do you know any persons who took bribes?—A good many of them I do; they attend the chapels.

Will you name some of them?—I cannot.

By a *Lord.*] What chapel do they attend?—Some attend the Methodist.

Mr. *Austin.*] Mention some members of the Methodist congregation who took bribes at the election?—I do not know of one I can mention without the poll-book.

Are you a Churchman?—Yes.

You say that you know some persons who attend the Methodist meeting who took bribes; give me some of their names, or one of them?—I cannot say without I have the book; but I know they attend the chapel.

How do you know that they attend the chapel?—I have seen them.

Do you mean to say that you cannot recollect the name of one that attends the chapel?—No, I cannot; I do not know who were bribed.

Then what do you mean by stating that those who were bribed were chiefly Dissenters?—Because they went to the chapel.

Will you give the name of any one who was bribed, and who goes to the chapel?—I do not know their names; I have seen them go to the chapel.

How do you know they were bribed?—I have been told so.

When were they pointed out to you as having been bribed?—After the election.

What were the names of some of them?—I cannot tell their names.

About how many might belong to the Methodist chapel?—I cannot say.

Who pointed them out to you?—Friends that have been with me in the street.

Do you recollect the name of any person who pointed out a Methodist to you as having been bribed?—No.

Neither the name of the person that pointed them out, nor of the persons that were pointed out as being bribed?—No.

Do you know any Churchman that was bribed?—Yes; I should think there were plenty; but I do not know who received it.

By a *Lord.*] You have stated that the whole sum that was paid to you for liquor that you served at your house was between 40 *l.* and 50 *l.*, and that the amount which you paid away in payments of 5 *s.* was 15 *l.*?—It was more than that; it was 40 *l.* odd, altogether.

You are a freeman, are you not?—I am.

Did you vote as a freeman or as a proprietor?—I voted as a burgess.

If you had not been a burgess, you would have had the right to vote as a householder?—I should.

Is that the case with many of the burgesses?—A great many.

Can you state what proportion of the burgesses would, if they were not burgesses, have a right to vote as householders?—I cannot.

But a great many?—Yes, a great many.

You say that you received orders to give ale to all the burgesses that came, and you charged all this ale to Mr. Goodricke?—I did.

Whether they voted for Mr. Goodricke or not?—Yes.

It was understood that your house was open in Mr. Goodricke's interest?—It was.

Did you understand that other persons except Mr. Goodricke's friends came to your house?—Yes, many.

Do you think it was fair to charge to Mr. Goodricke the entertainment afforded to persons that were not his friends?—I could not select them.

Is that the usual practice at Stafford?—It is.

Joseph Clewlow.

23 June 1836.

You knew of no other houses being opened besides your own?—Not particularly, but I knew there must be.

But you knew they were open?—Yes; there was drinking at other places.

In Mr. Goodricke's interest?—Yes.

Why did you say that you did not know it?—I knew there was drinking at other houses.

Do you know how many?—I do not.

Did you know there was drinking at the Swan?—I cannot tell.

Did you see them coming in to drink?—I did not.

At the Vine?—At the Vine I have seen them drinking.

Then why did you say that you did not know of any other house being open besides your own?—I did not know that the Vine was open.

Did you see voters in Mr. Goodricke's interest drinking there without paying for it?—I do not know whether they paid or not.

You have stated that at no one time were there more than 100 in your house upon any one day?—I believe not.

How many women did you give the 5 *s.* to?—Two hundred or 300.

You gave it to them for what reason?—To get themselves some refreshment.

You suppose that they wanted it because their husbands had been out drinking all that time. How did you know that 200 or 300 men had been out drinking all those days?—I had seen them about the town.

Had you seen them drinking?—Not all of them.

Then how did you know that these women were in want, in consequence of their husbands having been off work two or three days and drinking?—Because they made an application to me, some of them, and said how badly they were off, and asked me if I would speak for something for them.

Did not you say just now that they did not apply to you, but that you gave it them because they were in distress, because their husbands were out of work, and out drinking?—I did not say that they were badly off; they made an application to me, and I made an application to Mr. Walker.

They applied to you before you applied to Mr. Walker?—Yes.

Who were those that applied to you?—The poor men's wives.

Voters' wives?—Yes.

Then you applied to Mr. Walker, and a list was made out, and you said there was no use in making a list, for he must give to all?—Yes.

Then you only knew that those people had been out drinking because those women told you so?—Yes.

And those were voters' wives that applied to you?—Yes.

You said that Captain Chetwynd was a great favourite at the last election?—I do not know more than Mr. Goodricke.

Was he, or was he not?—He is always a favourite at Stafford.

That was owing to his family connexion with the neighbourhood?—I believe it was.

Was not Captain Chetwynd elected at the former election?—He was.

Did not he pay for his votes?—I do not know.

Do not you know that the votes were bought in 1832?—I do not know.

Do you believe they were?—I have heard they were.

Was not that a notorious thing in Stafford?—I think it was after the election they were paid something; I do not think they were promised anything before the election.

In what respect was the last election more pure than the former one?—Because nobody gave anything, and nobody promised anything.

Then, at the former election they had been promised and they had been given?—I suppose they must.

Just now you said that they had not been promised anything at the former election, and now you say that they had; which do you mean to say is the truth?—I suppose they were.

Before the last election had there not been a considerable talk in Stafford about its being disfranchised?—Yes.

That might have had some influence upon voters not taking money?—Perhaps it might.

Is John Clewlow a relation of yours?—He is my brother.

And William Clewlow?—He is a half brother of mine.

Did they vote for Goodricke?—Charles Clewlow did.

Joseph Clewlow.

23 June 1836.

And George Clewlow?—No.
What relation is he of yours?—A half brother of mine.
Is Charles Clewlow a 10 *l.* householder?—I believe not.
In what right does he vote?—As a burgess.
How many of them are 10*l.* householders?—They are all householders; there is only one of my brothers, my brother John, who is a 10 *l.* householder.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Batty* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

William Batty.

Mr. *Rushton.*] WHAT is your name?—William Batty.
Are you known in the borough of Stafford by any other name?—Yes.
What is that?—Matchey Batty; a nickname.
Were you at Stafford during the last election?—Yes.
Do you know a person called the Dudley Devil?—There was a person went by the name of "John come down."
Did you hear of a person called the Dudley Devil?—There was a person called that as well.
Did you ever see him?—Yes, many times.
Can you tell me his real name?—I cannot.
Do you know where he came from?—No.
What were you occupied with at Stafford?—Doorkeeper.
Where?—At the Swan.
What was the Dudley Devil employed about?—I cannot say.
Did you see him employed at anything in the election?—He went about, and gave them something to drink.
Did he give any money?—Nothing that I saw.
Did you see him frequently?—No.
Where did you see him?—Up and down the streets.
Did you see him in public-houses?—No, I never saw him in one; I saw him in a gin shop one day.
Were you canvassed at the last election on behalf of Captain Chetwynd?—Yes; they generally asked all the burgesses.
Did you promise to vote for Captain Chetwynd?—No, I did not.
Did you make no promise of any kind?—No, not to the best of my recollection.
Who applied to you on behalf of Captain Chetwynd?—Many asked; scores; I cannot remember that.
Do you know Mr. Meason?—Yes.
Did he canvass you for your vote?—No; he employed me in doorkeeping; he did not ask me to vote.
Where did he employ you?—I was at the Swan some time; and at the Vine.
As doorkeeper?—Yes.
What door did you keep?—The down-stairs door.
What were you paid for that?—Five shillings a day.
Was that all?—All.
Did you receive any other money than that 5 *s.* a day during the election?—Not a farthing.
Who made the agreement with you?—William Meason engaged me, and paid me, about a week after the election was over, 30 *s.* for six days.
For whom did you vote?—For Goodricke.
A plumper?—Yes.
For whom did you vote at the election before that?—Mr. Blount.
Which day of the election did you vote at the last election?—The last day.
Did Meason ask you to go up to vote?—No.
Did no person apply to you to go up to vote?—No; I am not a man wavering at an election; when I take to a side I keep to it.
Did you not take the side of Captain Chetwynd?—I never did on his first coming to the borough.
Before he came into the borough?—No.
Did you promise anybody at the last election?—Not to the best of my recollection.
Who canvassed you for Captain Chetwynd?—There was nobody.

William Batty.

23 June 1836.

Have you any doubt that you did promise for Captain Chetwynd?—I might if I was fresh.

Who canvassed you?—Nobody, I said; unless I was fresh in liquor, and I could not recollect.

Were you fresh previous to the election?—Sometimes; the same as other people.

Is that the general habit of Stafford?—At election times.

Do you remember who canvassed you on behalf of Captain Chetwynd?—I do not, for I was never at his house that he put up at.

Did anybody call at yours?—I was never at home.

Did anybody accost you in the streets upon the subject?—Not to the best of my knowledge.

You do not remember one occasion?—Not one.

Now, attend to this question: have you ever told anybody that Mr. Meason gave you a good reason for not voting for Captain Chetwynd?—No, I never did.

That you swear?—I do.

You never did?—I never did.

Did Mr. Meason ever ask you to vote for Mr. Goodricke?—No; I promised Mr. Goodricke the first time of his coming into the town; before ever I saw Mr. Meason.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whitmore.

You say you plumped for Goodricke; what was your reason for plumping Mr. Goodricke?—I never have split my vote but once since I have been a burgess.

Why did you vote for Goodricke?—Because my inclination led me.

What was the reason of that inclination?—He was the man that took my fancy.

Have you any political principles?—Yes; there was rather a dispute in the town about the Whigs and Tories, and they said they had had enough of the Whigs, and they would have no more of them.

Were you for the Tories?—Yes.

Was that your reason for voting for the Tories?—Yes.

Were you canvassed to vote for any one else?—Not to the best of my recollection.

Were you ever offered money to vote for anybody besides Goodricke?—No.

Do you know any who have been offered money to vote for any of the candidates at the last election, and have refused money?—Oh yes; there were plenty of them that might have money, if they had a mind to vote for Mr. Gronow, who would not have it.

That you know?—That I know.

Mr. Farrant was a candidate at the last election; was not he?—Yes.

Do you remember the bribery oath being administered?—Yes.

By whose desire was that?—Mr. Farrant's.

Were you present when he proposed it?—I was not in the hall at the time, but I heard them saying when I went across the market-place from the Vine to the Swan.

You were crossing the market-place, and heard them talking of it?—Yes.

Did you hear the freemen talk of it?—Yes.

Did you hear the freemen say that Mr. Farrant had proposed it?—Something of it.

Did you hear them say how that proposal was received?—No, I did not.

Was there any cheering?—I cannot say, for I was not in the place; I was only going backwards and forwards from one house to the other.

You have been asked whether you have ever told anybody that Mr. Meason had given you good reason for not voting for Captain Chetwynd?—Not to the best of recollection.

Had you a good reason for not voting for Captain Chetwynd?—No; I could have pleased myself to vote for whom I liked.

Your good reason for voting for Goodricke was that he was a Tory?—Yes.

Re-examined by Mr. Austin.

William Batty.

23 June 1836.

You said, not to the best of your recollection; is that so?—Yes.

What do you mean by not to the best of your recollection?—Because a man when he was among 500 or 600 people cannot recollect what was said.

Will you venture to swear that nothing of that sort ever passed; that nothing was said about giving a good reason for not voting for Captain Chetwynd?—I will; the truth.

You do not speak as to the best of your recollection?—No; I swear that nobody ever said that to me.

By a *Lord.*] How long have you been a voter for Stafford?—About 20 years.

You have voted at other elections besides this?—Yes; I voted for Sir John Campbell three times.

You recived nothing for your vote, but you liked the Tories; you agreed with the Tories?—No; I voted for Sir John Campbell; but they rather found him out, or he was currying it on.

How did he?—He did not speak well of the borough, as he ought to do.

He let out that there was bribery there?—I think he was the worst as ever did come for bribery.

Did you vote for him?—Three times I plumped him.

Did you get anything for those plumps?—Yes.

What did you get?—£. 6.

Each time that you plumped?—No.

One time you did not?—Twice I did not.

That made you somewhat angry with him?—No; I was not angry for that.

What were you angry with him for; was it giving you 6 *l.* at one time or for not giving it?—It was the last time he gave it.

That did not reconcile you to him?—No.

Was it from the regard for the money that you gave the vote?—We did not know we were to have it.

Did you ever know any election previous to the last where votes were not bought?—Not to the best of my knowledge.

What did you receive when you voted for Mr. Blount?—Not a farthing; only drink.

You are sure of that?—Yes.

What is the reason that the Whigs are out of favour at Stafford; because they think that they ought to be disfranchised?—I cannot say about that; whether it is because of that.

Was not that the reason?—It might, or it might not; I cannot say.

What do you think it was?—It might be through that.

Do not you think that it was through that?—It might be something of that kind.

Do not you think that it was that?—Well, I do.

Are you not sure of it?—I am sure of it myself; I would not vote for him through it.

Do not you think that there was a great impression at Stafford, a great alarm, at the idea of this town being disfranchised?—Yes.

Do you not think that that had a great effect upon the last election?—Yes.

And that was an additional motive which made people refuse bribes last time; the fear of being disfranchised?—Something of that sort.

You have not received something each time?—No.

How often did you receive 6 *l.*?—The last election; and that was six months after.

And only the last election?—Yes.

In what year was that?—I cannot tell you.

The last time that Sir John Campbell stood for Stafford?—Yes.

Was it not a common conversation at all the previous elections to the last, perfectly well known in Stafford, what the price of votes was?—No.

Was it not?—No; the time that I voted I never got a farthing for it.

Did you hear that others got a farthing?—I voted for Mr. Humphreys the first time that I voted.

Did you receive anything then?—No.

William Batty.

23 June 1836.

Did you vote for Beaumont, or Spooner?—Beaumont.

Did you receive anything then?—Yes.

How much?—£.5 or 6*l.*; it might be more, or it might be less.

Did not the price of votes rise in the market after the beginning of the election?—I cannot say; it is so many years ago.

At the last election but one, in 1832, did not the price of votes rise; was it not 5*l.* for a plumper at first, and 6*l.* afterwards, then 8*l.* and 10*l.*?—No, I do not think that it goes as high as 10*l.*

But they got up?—Yes, they might.

To be as high as 10*l.*?—Yes.

They generally rise at the end of the election, do they not?—It could not rise last time, because there was no money given, only from Gronow, that ever I heard talked of.

You stated that you were bribed for voting for Sir John Campbell, and you were bribed at another time for voting for Mr. Beaumont; were you ever bribed by any other person?—I never had money given to me for a gift after the election was over to speak of.

You received money for voting for Sir John Campbell at one time, and for Mr. Beaumont at another; did you ever receive money for voting for any other person at Stafford?—No.

Were those two candidates what are called Whig candidates?—I cannot tell.

You see no great reason for liking Tories; you were never bribed by a Tory yet?—Never, to the best of my recollection.

That is the reason that you are so fond of the Tories, that you think that they never did bribe?—They might for what I know.

Is not the feeling of Stafford, then, the Whigs have been the highest in bribery, and then turn round to disfranchise the borough?—Yes. If Mr. Gronow paid a cart-load of money he could not have come in at the last election.

Is he a Whig or a Tory?—He is a Whig, I believe; the talk was that he was so.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *George Holyoake*, Esq., was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

G. Holyoake, Esq.

Mr. *Austin.*] ARE you brother to Sir Francis Goodricke?—I am.

Do you live in Stafford?—I do.

You are engaged in business there, I believe?—Yes.

And have been so for some years?—Yes.

In what business?—I was an attorney then; I am now a banker.

Were you engaged in Sir Francis Goodricke's election?—I was.

Mr. Goodricke then, I believe?—Mr. Goodricke.

Do you know how much money was spent on the part of Mr. Goodricke at that election?—I do.

How much was spent?—Rather more than 2,700*l.*

In the course of how many days?—I think eight or nine.

What day do you begin from?—From the Monday.

The first polling day?—No, the Monday preceding the writ; the writ came down, I think, on the Wednesday, and we went to Stafford on the Monday preceding.

The Monday before the polling-day?—Yes.

Carrying you down to the close of the second polling-day?—Yes.

Were all the bills disbursed at that time?—No; some of the bills were not paid till some time afterwards.

By a *Lord.*] Do the 2,700*l.* cover the whole of the expenses?—Yes, to the extent of my knowledge.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you know that?—I think it is impossible that any man could have been paid without my knowing it; I do not think any money was paid that did not come through my hands.

Do you know a person of the name of Walker?—Yes.

He was an agent for Mr. Goodricke at that election?—He was a friend of ours.

He

He was engaged on your side of the election?—No doubt of it.

Did you pay him any money?—Yes.

How much did you pay him?—I have the bills; I paid Mr. Walker, at least Mr. Walker was paid from the bank, 1,000*l.*, and a sum of 694*l.* 8*s.*, I think.

Nearly 1,700*l.*?—Yes, about that; and 50*l.* Mr. Walker had as a present for his trouble after it was over.

And there is no doubt that he was an agent?—No.

For what purpose was that sum advanced to Mr. Walker?—The general purposes of the election.

In what way was the residue paid; the other 1,000*l.*?—There was a sum paid for the tavern bill at the tavern where we were, amounting to 537*l.* 14*s.*; there was a sum of 200*l.* paid to Mr. Flint for his agency, and 10*l.* for some bills, which Mr. Worsey produced afterwards, little tavern bills; and there was a sum of 31*l.* 10*s.* which I paid myself in disbursements, and my brother afterwards paid me.

What description?—I cannot charge my memory; I think they were given away in the streets to the best of my recollection.

Does that make up the whole figures?—I think it does. There is another sum of 211*l.* 16*s.* paid to Mr. Painter; that 1,000*l.* which I set down to Mr. Walker I think was paid to Painter in the first instance; I think that makes the amount.

Was the tavern bill paid at the Swan?—Yes.

That was the expense of entertaining your friends and committee, and so on?—Yes.

And the whole of the committee expenses?—Yes.

That discharged the whole committee expenses, the expenses of the books, paper, and so on?—No, I cannot say that; that was the tavern bill only.

What was the money paid to Flint for?—Mr. Flint's bill of 200*l.* was paid as a fee to him for his services.

Was he an attorney?—Yes.

Then 10*l.* was paid in small sums for tavern bills; and the 31*l.* in the streets, how was that disbursed?—I really cannot say.

You do not know by whom?—I think by myself.

Was it given to voters?—No; my recollection is that it was given to somebody for the purpose of distributing to the public-houses; it was before we had money from the bank.

It was for the purpose of being distributed to the public-houses?—Yes, I think it was.

For the purchase of liquor?—Yes.

What was the 211*l.* 16*s.* given to Mr. Painter for?—I have his account here.

Mr. Painter is dead, I believe, is he not?—He is; Mr. Painter made out that book.

The 1,000*l.*; for what purpose was that advanced to Mr. Painter?—That was given for the same purposes, for public-houses and the current expenses.

And he handed it over to Mr. Walker?—He appears to have handed over part to Mr. Walker; 950*l.* appears to have been handed over.

Nearly the whole?—Nearly the whole.

What was the money advanced to Mr. Walker for?—For a list of bills that were advanced after the election sometime.

Do not you know that a considerable proportion of that money was spent in public-houses?—I believe it was so.

The principal part was disbursed in treating; was it not?—I think a great portion of it.

You are not acquainted with the details yourself?—No, I am not.

Was there not extensive treating at the last election in Stafford?—I can only speak to our own.

Was that extensive?—I do not know about that; I had never seen a Stafford election before.

Did it not occur to you, from what you witnessed, that the treating was extensive?—I did not consider it so much; there were a vast number of people there.

And a vast deal of treating?—A vast deal of treating no doubt; but there were a number of runners and canvassing clerks paid out of the same money.

G. Holyoake, Esq.

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A vast deal was treating, but there was some in the expense of clerks and so on.

But you do not know the details?—No.

Mr. Walker can speak to that?—I suppose he can.

Did you hear of a person called the Dudley Devil during the election?—I never heard of a person of that name.

Did you not hear that name applied to any person?—No.

Or the Man in the Moon?—Yes.

Was he engaged in treating?—I do not know that he was engaged in treating.

Do you know how he was engaged?—Yes; I fancy that he was engaged in crying up the popularity of Mr. Goodricke, and doing what he could in his favour.

Do you know whether he had money to distribute?—I do not know that he had.

Do you know where he is to be found?—No.

Do you know who introduced him to Stafford?—I think Mr. Walker; somewhere from the neighbourhood of Birmingham he came.

What is the meaning of the entry, "Roughleet, 19 *l.* 10 *s.*"?—I am not aware.

You say that you think that the treating was extensive; did I not understand you to say that it was not too extensive?—Upon my word I am not a judge, there were so many people there.

Was it necessary for the purpose of the election?—I think that we could not have got on so well without it.

Do you think that Sir Francis Goodricke could have been returned if he had not treated to that extent?—I cannot say that the extent was necessary.

Do you think that he could have been returned if he had not treated at all?—No, I do not think he could.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whateley.

Do you believe that there was a single farthing given by Sir Francis Goodricke for a vote at the last election?—I do not believe that there was.

How was your brother, Sir Francis, introduced to Stafford; who invited him?—Mr. Painter.

And some of the other gentlemen in Stafford?—Yes.

Mr. Painter was a man of considerable property, was he not, in Stafford?—Yes, I believe he was.

What was he?—Horse dealer.

A great breeder of thorough-bred horses?—Yes.

He bred the Leviathan among a number of good things he did?—Yes.

But a man of considerable property there, was he?—I should say very great.

Were your brother Sir Francis's political opinions known when he went to Stafford?—I do not know.

Were they known when he got there?—Yes.

Did he make an address, and avow himself of the conservative party?—Yes.

Is it your opinion that at that time the conservative party were popular in Stafford?—I think they were.

There is a sum of 31 *l.* 10 *s.* given in the streets; might not that have been given for swearing in burgesses?—I cannot recollect; it was some of the current expenses at that election; I quite forget them.

I believe Mr. Gifford of Chillington was also one of Sir Francis Goodricke's friends, who introduced him to the borough of Stafford?—He was.

He is a gentleman of great hereditary property there, and is very well known, is he not?—Yes.

Do you know whether Mr. Charles Gifford accompanied Sir Francis into Stafford?—He did.

And continued with him during the election?—Yes.

Have you ever been acquainted with elections in different places?—Yes, I have.

Did you ever know any election in your life where there was not a good deal of treating?—I never knew a borough election where there was not treating.

Borough or county, did you ever know an election where there was not more or less of treating?—I cannot say that ever I did. G. Holyoake, Esq. 23 June 1836.

Did you ever know of a borough election where houses were not open?—No, except Wolverhampton; I think they are never open there.

Wolverhampton is a very late constituency?—Yes; no public-houses were open there.

Do you happen to know in the towns in the neighbourhood whether the houses are open in Dudley, and Kidderminster, and Walsall, and all those places?—Yes, I have always understood that they were.

Do you know anything of the Coventry elections?—No, I do not.

What are the principal parts of those bills which you produce; those are items, if I rightly understand you, in this book that were made by Mr. Painter, and paid by you to him?—Yes.

Here is an item for "flags, doorkeepers, public-houses;" follows, "for distributing bills; 16 drummers, and 14 drummers;" those were the different items that were paid after the election?—Yes.

Does this book contain the whole of the items that were paid to Mr. Painter?—Yes.

All the items that are particularized here were his account?—Yes; that is his balance-sheet.

Mr. Flint's 200 *l.* is included in this item, I believe?—Yes.

And runners and all other expenses?—The account of Flint's includes other expenses; canvassing clerks.

That all comes in the 2,700 *l.*?—Yes.

Canvassing clerks, 50 *l.* 10 *s.*?—Yes.

Paid Mr. Drury's bill, 15 guineas?—Yes.

Do you remember, upon your brother being applied to to stand for Stafford, whether you made any application to them as to what would be his prospect of success if he offered himself?—Yes; I wrote to Mr. Painter upon it.

What was the question you asked; was it not whether he had a chance of being returned without paying anything for votes?—I cannot say that that question was asked.

But did you in the course of conversation learn that he might be returned without paying anything for voting money?—Decidedly I did; I distinctly understood that we should not have to buy votes.

Was that understanding acted upon from the beginning to the end of the election?—I should say it was; to the best of my knowledge it was.

Do you know one single instance in which it was deviated from?—I do not.

By a *Lord.*] Having been in the legal profession, did it never occur to you that there was great risk in the extensive treating in Stafford?—No, I did not think much of it; I had been in the habit of seeing it in boroughs, and I did not think much of it; I had always understood that it was usual in Stafford.

In the amount of the expenditure which you have detailed, is the expense of hustings and poll-clerks included?—Yes, every farthing.

And the whole amount together is only 2,700 *l.*?—Yes, a little more than 2,700 *l.*

You have had no experience of any former election in Stafford?—I have not.

In what places have you seen such treating as this?—At Bridgnorth I have heard of it, as others have.

But you understood that it was perfectly necessary in Stafford?—Yes, I did.

Did you understand that there was a difference between the last election in Stafford and previous elections?—I have heard that votes have been bought there in former elections.

And you came to the clear understanding that it would not be necessary to buy votes by actual bribing on this occasion?—I came to a clear understanding that we would not buy votes under any circumstances.

You thought this treating necessary?—Yes.

You did not intend to throw away money uselessly?—No; we did not intend to do so, certainly.

From your knowledge of the borough of Stafford, would there be there a sufficient constituency of respectable persons if the freemen were no longer voters;

G. Holyoake, Esq.
23 June 1836.

voters; if the voters were confined to 10 *l.* householders, would that afford a respectable constituency in the town of Stafford?—I should say it would.

Are you acquainted with the number of the 10 *l.* householders, and the freemen?—I am not; but I speak from seeing the parties coming up to poll, and from the appearance of them.

Is it the county town of Staffordshire?—Yes.

Containing a great many respectable inhabitants and respectable shop keepers?—Yes.

Making as respectable a constituency as most county towns in England that have no extensive manufactories?—I should say so; that Stafford is a very respectable place.

[*The Witness delivered in his accounts.*]

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till to-morrow at Three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Veneris, 24° *Junii* 1836.

THE Order of the Day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled, "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their Petition;

The Counsel were accordingly called in.

Then *John Hansom Webb*, Esq., was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

J. H. Webb, Esq.
24 June 1836.

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a banker at Stafford?—Yes.

What is the name of the firm?—Stevenson, Salt and Webb.

Were you in the bank at the period of the last election?—I was clerk at the bank.

Did you keep cash for any of the candidates?—Yes.

Name them?—We had an account with Mr. Farrant.

Anybody else; Captain Chetwynd?—He keeps a regular account with us.

Had you any separate account with him on that occasion?—None.

Had you an account with Captain Gronow?—No; not himself.

With Mr. Gronow?—The reverend Thomas Gronow we discounted a bill for.

Had you an account with Mr. Goodricke?—Some cheques of his, drawn by George Holyoake, passed through our hands.

Did Mr. Farrant usually keep an account with your house?—We had transactions with him.

But a regular account?—No.

When was the money deposited in the bank, previous to the election?—I must refer to the ledger. The date of the first payment is the 2nd of January 1835.

Whose?—Robert Farrant's.

How much was it?—£. 200.

What was the next?—6th January, 50 *l.*

Any other?—The 7th, 52 *l.* 10 *s.*, and 67 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.*, and 300 *l.*

When was that?—On the same date.

Is that the credit or the debit?—The debit. The 20th of January, 10 guineas, and the 15th of January, 10 guineas.

Is that the close of the account?—That is the last payment.

By a *Lord.*] Were those Mr. Farrant's cheques upon the bank?—Yes.

To whose order?—Different parties.

Mr. *Rushton.*] What is the first payment into the bank?—The 5th of January.

What

What was that?—£. 200. The 12th of January, 500 *l.*

Was that the whole?—Yes.

To whose order was that paid?—The first 200 *l.* is to Flint, the 2nd of January; the 6th of January, to Flint, 50 *l.*; the 7th, to Passman, 52 *l.* 10 *s.*; ditto, 67 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.*; ditto, 300 *l.*

When is the 300 *l.*?—The 7th of January; the 20th of June, Bostock, and July the 15th, Colwell, 10 guineas.

That is the whole amount?—Yes; that is the whole amount that is paid.

Have you any separate account of Captain Chetwynd at all at that election?—No separate account.

What account had you with Mr. Goodricke; what cheques were paid through you?—There was one for 50 *l.*, 200 *l.*, 5 *l.*, and 658 *l.* 8 *s.* 2 *d.*

In whose favour were the cheques drawn?—£. 150. to Walker, 200 *l.* to Flint; of the others I have no account.

Were the others merely payable to bearer?—Yes.

Is that the usual course of your trade, to pay cheques to bearer without a name?—There was a name to it, but we merely made a memorandum of the cheque having passed through our hands.

And you have no record of the name at all?—No.

Was it paid to you?—I have no recollection whatever.

Had you any account for any of the other candidates besides Captain Chetwynd?—None whatever.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whateley.

Will you refer a moment to Mr. Farrant's account?—Yes. [*The Witness referred to the Account.*]

If I take it rightly, the first payment was to self?—Yes.

And the next?—Yes.

And the next to Passman, 52 *l.* 10 *s.*?—Yes.

He is a solicitor, Mr. Passman?—Yes.

The next is to Passman?—Yes.

What is the next?—To Mr. Bostock.

What date is that?—20th of June.

That was a considerable time after the election; half a year?—Yes.

Who is Bostock?—I do not know.

What is the next?—July the 15th, Mr. Colville.

Is that the rector of the place?—I presume it is.

Probably some subscription to charity?—I have the cheques here.

Refer to them?—Yes.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Have you the original cheques?—Yes. [*The cheque was handed to the learned Counsel.*]

Mr. *Whateley.*] Will your lordships allow me to read this? "Messrs. Salt and Company,—Please to pay the Rev. W. E. Colville 10 guineas, my account. Robert Farrant. London, 14th July 1835. Ten guineas." The one to Mr. Bostock is: "Messrs. Salt and Company,—You will please to pay Edwin Bostock the sum of 10 guineas, and place the same to the debit of my account. London, 16th June 1835.

What is the total amount that was drawn out by Mr. Farrant at the time of the election, within a week of the election?—That is from the 2nd of January to the 7th?

Yes.—£. 669. 16 *s.* 8 *d.*

There was a sum of 300 *l.* drawn out by a cheque to Mr. Passman; when was that drawn out?—The 7th of January.

You have included that?—Yes, in the 669 *l.*

There are two cheques to which you have got no name; have you got the original cheques for Mr. Goodricke's account?—They merely passed through our hands.

There were names of payees, although you have not taken them down?—I have no doubt of it.

There was some name inserted before the words "or bearer?"—Yes.

Have you any account with Mr. Gronow in that book?—Not with Captain Gronow.

J. H. Webb, Esq.

24 June 1836.

With Mr. Gronow?—No.

You said you had an account with the Reverend Thomas Gronow?—We discounted a bill for him.

Have you the bill here?—Yes.

Let me look at it?—Yes. [*It was handed to the learned Counsel.*]

Mr. *Whateley.*] Will your lordships allow me to read it? £. 968. 10 *s.* Stafford, 3rd of January 1835. At sight, pay to Messrs. Stevenson, Salt and Company, or order, 968 *l.* 10 *s.*, for value received. Thomas Gronow." Directed to Messrs. Herries and Company, bankers; and endorsed, "Pay Messrs. Stevenson, Salt, or order, per procuration Stevenson and Salt, W. M. Salt." And also under that it is marked, "Received, Stevenson and Salt, ——," some name which is not very intelligible; and affixed to the bill is this note:—"H. and Co. have already paid this money to Smith, Payne and Company, on account of the Manchester and Liverpool District Bank, by order of the Reverend Thomas Gronow, 5th of January 1835."

Did you pay this sum?—We gave him the money for this bill.

Who came for the money?—I believe the Reverend Thomas Gronow, the drawer.

Do you remember whether Sir Charles Wolseley accompanied him?—I was not in the bank at the time.

Who, in fact, paid the money on that bill?—The district bank repaid it to us.

Did you with your own hand pay to Mr. Gronow?—Not myself.

Who did?—I believe it was my partner, Mr. Salt; I think I looked out the money; but it is a long while back; I forget.

The money was paid from your bank, and repaid by the district bank at Stafford; is that so?—Yes.

To whom it had been remitted by Herries and Company?—Yes.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Meeson*, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

William Meeson.

Mr. *Austin.*] WHAT are you?—A shoe-manufacturer.

Do you live at Stafford?—Yes.

How long have you lived there?—Thirty years.

Do you remember several elections for the town during your time?—Yes, I do.

You take a part in the elections of Stafford usually?—Yes; sometimes.

All the recent elections, I believe?—Most of them.

You are a pretty old electioneer there?—Yes, I have had a little experience.

Among others, were you engaged in the last election of 1835, in January?—I was.

For whom were you engaged then?—I took a part for Mr. Goodricke.

His committee sat at the Swan, did it not?—It sat at the Vine.

Who were the members of his committee?—They were very few; myself, Mr. Walker, and Charles Morris.

Were they all the members of the committee?—No more that I recollect particularly.

Nixon was not a member of your committee?—No.

Nor Clewlow?—I did not consider them as such.

Who did you consider the whole members of the committee?—Myself, Mr. Walker, and Morris.

Who was the principal man of you three?—Mr. Walker.

Who kept the accounts?—Mr. Walker.

Have you any of the books or papers in your possession?—I have none.

Where did you hold your meeting?—At the Vine.

When did you begin to meet?—As soon as the election commenced; I cannot speak to the date of it.

They began to meet before the election day?—A week before.

On the Monday week before that?—About a week before the election commenced.

And

And you held your meetings every day?—Yes.

Always at the Vine?—Yes.

For the most part?—The greatest part of our time there.

How often did Mr. Goodricke come?—I do not recollect seeing him at the Vine at all.

Yes; I think, if you recollect yourself, you saw him there; just try?—I cannot say I did.

Surely; recollect?—I do not recollect ever seeing him there at all.

You do not recollect his coming to Mr. Walker there?—I do not.

Did you ever communicate with the Swan, and the people at the Swan?—Sometimes.

When you communicated with the people at the Swan, to whom did you send your communication?—Mr. Painter.

He was chairman of the committee at the Swan?—Yes.

Do you know who the committee at the Swan were?—I do not.

You were a sub-committee?—Yes.

The grand committee sat at the Swan, and you were a sub-committee at the Vine?—Yes.

Did Painter ever see you at the Vine?—Never.

He never came there?—No.

None of the members of the grand committee?—Not that I recollect.

I suppose you avoided communicating one with another personally?—I do not know that we had any particular reason for doing so.

You did not do it?—No.

What part of the business was it your province to conduct at the Vine?—I merely sat there with Mr. Walker, and sometimes went out canvassing.

What was the rest of the business?—Nothing particular to do; we were suggesting how we were to carry on the election.

What was the principal business?—There was nothing particular.

Do you not recollect Mr. Nixon coming there?—Yes; Mr. Nixon and Mr. Clewlow.

Do you remember the arrangements about giving away the 5 *s.* to the burgesses wives?—Yes.

When was that talked of?—On the Friday.

Did Mr. Clewlow propose that?—Mr. Walker proposed it.

There was a list made out?—Yes; there were some notes on scraps of paper.

Who suggested the names?—Mr. Walker.

Was that list acted on afterwards?—The 5 *s.* were given.

Was that list acted on afterwards?—The list that was wrote out?

Yes?—Yes; I believe to some extent.

The 5 *s.* were given very extensively?—I do not know what money Mr. Walker gave them; what amount I cannot say.

Do you know what has become of that list?—I do not.

Who had the management of the money at your sub-committee?—Mr. Walker.

Did he pay it exclusively, or did you pay any?—I paid some.

Did Morris pay you?—Yes, I believe he did.

How did he pay it; in hard cash or notes?—In hard cash.

Where did you get the money from?—Mr. Walker.

Mr. Walker supplied you too?—Yes.

You do not know where he got his money?—I do not.

To whom did you make different payments?—I left money at different public-houses.

How much?—At one place 1 *l.*; some 2 *l.*, and at some 3 *l.*

How many days did you do that?—We did it every day, and sometimes went round twice.

When did you begin?—On the Tuesday before the election; I cannot speak positively to dates.

About that time?—Yes.

To how many public-houses did you go round in that way?—To every one in the town; we made no distinction.

Was there an arrangement about the public-houses before you went out; was it understood to what places you should go?—We went round to every one in the town.

William Meeson.

24 June 1836.

Was it arranged before you went out what public-houses you should call on, or was it left to your discretion?—It was left to my own discretion.

You called on the different public-houses as they happened to be in your way?—Yes.

Did you divide it into two districts?—Sometimes we divided it into two classes; and sometimes we went together.

Was this in pursuance of the old practice, or according to a new arrangement?—It was previously done before.

To the old practice?—Yes.

To the old practice at elections?—Yes.

Do I understand you went round distributing this money without any previous concert at the Vine?—None whatever.

Surely there must have been some concert?—I am not aware there was.

Walker gave you the money?—Yes.

I suppose some conversation passed then?—Walker told me to go round and see whether they wanted any drink; whether they wanted any money left there; and Walker often went with me.

You told me that it began about Tuesday, and you went once or twice every day?—Yes.

Did he supply you with a particular sum, or did you ask him?—I did not go much myself; I had not more than 50*l.* all the election; he paid the greater part of the money himself.

Now, what was the purpose for which this money was left? who were to have the drink at the public-houses?—Any one that might go there might have it.

Voters and burgesses?—Burgesses or not; any stranger that came in the town.

Was it money meant for the voters, or all the town?—For all that went there and drank.

Were you in one of the houses?—Yes.

Were not the houses principally filled with voters?—Of course there were voters.

Do attend to the question?—There were voters.

Were not the houses principally filled with voters at that time?—Yes.

The great majority of people drinking there were voters?—Yes.

When you say the people in the town—in fact, they were open for the voters?—Yes.

It was to treat the voters?—Yes.

Have you any doubt about that?—No.

They were treated?—Yes.

With ale, spirits, tobacco, beef steaks, and other things such as burgesses love?—Yes.

This eating and drinking went on till after the election closed?—Yes.

And there was abundance of it?—Not so much as I have seen.

Not so much as in the good old times, but still there was abundance of it?—Yes.

And you visited all the inns in the town in the course of peregrinations?—Yes, I did.

And the voters were partaking of these things during all the time, early and late?—Yes.

At all times in the day and a good way into the night?—Yes.

And with the morning dawn also?—Yes.

They begin business early?—Yes.

Nobody did any work that were on the register that week?—Very little.

It was a week of jollification altogether?—It certainly was.

And the wives in the meantime, how did they fare; the wives of the burgesses?—They generally joined their husbands at the public-houses.

And they participated in the spoil?—Yes.

And those who did not, had they the 5*s.*!?—Yes.

Did you hear the instructions about the 5*s.*?—I did not particularly.

Was it your duty to attend to the state of the public-houses?—Yes.

To see that they were properly supplied?—Yes.

Were not the instructions that the burgesses should have whatever they called for?—Yes.

At all times?—Yes.

Those were the instructions you gave to the innkeepers?—We did not leave any instructions with them; we left so much money with them, according to the number in their house.

But your object was, that there should be as much for them to eat and drink as they wished?—Yes.

Did you pay the bills finally?—I did not.

The Vine was open also?—Yes.

Were the same scenes taking place in the Vine?—Yes; the same as the others.

And the voters were there?—Yes.

Were those principally Mr. Goodricke's voters?—I cannot say; I do not know how they polled, for I never was in court while they polled.

You may have seen the poll-book since?—I have not.

Did you know any of the burgesses?—Yes, but I cannot say how they all voted.

Do you know how many of them voted?—I do not.

You cannot tell me whether they voted principally for Mr. Goodricke?—I cannot.

Was the intention of opening those houses on the part of Mr. Goodricke that he might stand well with the voters?—No doubt of it.

Do you know that the intention was not to buy particular votes, but to keep up his general reputation with the voters?—Yes.

Did you advise that to be done yourself?—No.

Are you acquainted with the necessities of elections at this place?—Yes.

Was not it necessary for his success, in your opinion, that houses should be opened in that manner?—Yes.

And you would have been of opinion that if he had not opened the houses he would not have succeeded?—I cannot answer that question.

Did you not advise that houses should be opened?—I did, certainly.

And you believed so conscientiously?—I did.

You conscientiously believed that it was necessary to open the houses in order to succeed?—I did.

That is a thing about which you had no doubt?—Not the slightest.

Was it upon that supposition that you and the other gentlemen of the Committee acted?—It was.

I believe there are not many people in Stafford who understand electioneering tactics better than you?—Yes; I think there are.

But you know the constituency there?—Yes, I do.

Which way did you vote?—I did not vote at all.

Are you on the register?—Yes.

By a *Lord.*] As a freeman, or a householder?—As a freeman.

Mr. *Austin.*] Are you an old electioneerer?—Yes.

Have you always had a right to vote there?—Yes, since I came of age.

By a *Lord.*] How came you not to vote?—As the party that I took in the election was safe, I thought it was no use to poll then. Mr. Goodricke's election was safe.

Mr. *Austin.*] When did you consider that Mr. Goodricke's election was safe?—In the morning of the second day's poll.

Was it safe on the first day?—I consider it was.

Had not he a majority of 10 over Gronow?—I do not recollect.

Had you a meeting on the night of the first day of the election?—We had.

Had not you a conversation at that meeting?—We had.

About the state of the poll?—About the state of the poll.

And you considered, upon the whole, that the election was then safe?—Yes.

Did not you know that they had been polling pretty stoutly for Goodricke towards the close of that day in the Crown-court?—No, I did not; I did not see the poll-book.

You do not recollect those details being discussed?—No.

Do you happen to know that the race was between Goodricke and Gronow on the first day?—I think not; I think it was between Chetwynd and Goodricke; they were the two first on the poll.

But all the three came very near each other on the first day of the poll?—I understood that we had a great majority on the first day's poll.

William Meeson.

24 June 1836.

Have you any doubt that that was owing, to a considerable extent, to the munificence of Mr. Goodricke in opening the houses?—I do not think it was.

What do you attribute it to?—I understood that Captain Gronow was paying all his voters at the time.

Do not you believe that Mr. Goodricke's state on the poll was owing to his munificence in treating the voters?—It might be in some measure.

Have you any doubt that it was?—I have not.

Supposing he had not opened a single public-house, do you believe he would have stood upon the poll where he did?—I do not believe he would.

Then his station upon the poll was, in your opinion, attributable to his opening the houses, and Gronow's station upon the poll was attributable to his bribing?—It was.

Have you any doubt that Goodricke was there by treating, and Gronow was there by bribing?—I think so.

Have you any doubt that it was so?—I have not.

Can any man have a doubt who is acquainted with Stafford?—I cannot answer for any one else.

You were also engaged in canvassing?—Yes.

Was all the money that you paid in the course of the election paid to innkeepers?—No; I paid some doorkeepers.

What were the names of the doorkeepers whom you paid?—William Batty was one.

Is he the man they call "Mountseer"?—Yes; about 10 or 12 altogether I paid.

Was Day one?—Yes.

And Grattridge?—Yes.

And Tonks?—Yes.

Who else?—I do not exactly recollect the names.

Did you canvass them?—I did.

You got them to vote plumpers for Goodricke?—No; I wanted them to split for Captain Chetwynd, and the answer I got from Batty was, that he never split his vote but once in his life, and the others would do the same.

They were all of them freemen?—Yes.

And all old electioneerers?—Yes.

What did you pay them for keeping the door?—Five shillings a day.

Did you canvass them before you employed them or afterwards?—I employed them first.

What day did you canvass them?—Some time during the election; I cannot say as to the day.

What sums did they receive from you?—Thirty shillings or 35 *s.* each.

How many days did you count the election to have lasted?—Six days.

The polling two days and the election six?—Yes.

You paid them 5 *s.* a day for all that time?—Yes.

Had they access to the public houses like the rest?—They were generally at the Vine.

And they had drink at the Vine with the others?—Yes.

How many doorkeepers were there altogether?—Ten or 12.

And they had about 30 *s.* a piece?—Yes.

Were they all the doorkeepers that were employed?—All that I am aware of.

Had the doorkeepers any work to do?—Yes.

What doors did they keep?—The committee room door at the Vine.

Where else?—We had no other committee room that I am aware of.

All the 12 were keeping the door?—Going errands as well; we kept them pretty well employed.

Is there not a distinct establishment of runners?—Not that I am aware of.

Had you any conference with old Mr. Painter at all?—None that I recollect.

Just try and recollect?—None that I am aware of.

Did you never see old Painter during the election?—Yes, several times.

Did nothing pass between you?—No; I do not recollect anything.

Do you recollect nothing about money?—I had no money from Mr. Painter.

Do not you recollect something passing about money between you and him?—No.

You are certain of that?—Certain of it.

Did

William Meeson.

24 June 1836.

Did nothing pass about money in the presence of Painter?—Not that I recollect.

Did you know a person of the name of Alday?—No.

Did you hear of the Man in the Moon?—I did.

You never saw him?—I saw him twice.

He also went under the name of the Dudley Devil?—He did.

What was he at Stafford for?—I cannot say, only from report; it was reported in the town that he was going round to the public-houses for Mr. Goodricke.

Did you happen to know that that was the fact?—I did not.

Did he make his appearance at your Committee-room?—I saw him twice at the Vine.

What was he about there?—He called Mr. Walker out, and they went into a private room by themselves.

How much money he spent you do not know?—No.

Or where he got it?—No.

Nor what he did with it?—No.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whitmore.

Of this Dudley Devil you knew nothing whatever but from report?—No.

You only saw him once?—Once or twice.

Was not Mr. Goodricke very popular from the beginning?—Yes.

We heard that he was a Tory?—I heard so.

Was not he popular on that account?—He was.

Did not Mr. Gifford accompany him to Stafford?—Yes.

Is not Mr. Gifford a gentleman of great property and influence in the neighbourhood?—Yes.

Was not he also popular?—Yes.

Was not Mr. Goodricke's popularity in some degree dependent upon that?—No doubt of it, in some degree.

And Mr. Goodricke's liberality kept up that popularity?—No doubt of it.

Do you think, if he had not been a popular man, the treating would have put him at the head of the poll?—I think it would.

Do you mean, that if a very unpopular candidate had arrived in Stafford at the last election he would have been at the top of the poll?—Not a very unpopular person.

Do you think Captain Gronow would?—No.

You went to every public-house in the town?—I did.

The orders were that people should be supplied to the amount of the money that you left?—Yes.

They did not go beyond that amount?—Not that I am aware of.

Those supplies were to the voters of all parties?—Yes.

And to the others as well as to the voters?—No distinction made.

To any person that came in?—Certainly.

Much the same as if barrels of beer had been made to flow in the streets?—Yes.

You say you are an old electioneerer, and that it is an old practice; that it has always been the practice to keep the people of the town in good humour during the election?—Certainly.

For aught you know, that is not more necessary at an election at Stafford than at an election anywhere else?—Not that I know of.

Do not you know that Mr. Goodricke was 143 at the head of the poll at the end of the first day?—I do not; I heard he had a great majority, but I did not know the exact number.

You paid no money away yourself?—No, except at the public-houses.

Do you know of a single farthing being given for any vote on the part of Mr. Goodricke?—I do not.

Mr. Goodricke was at the Swan?—He was.

And his party were there?—Yes.

Was not it a large party?—Yes, I believe a large party every day.

Consisting, many of them, of persons from his own neighbourhood?—Some from Wolverhampton.

You are probably acquainted with many of the publicans' charges at elections; are you?—Yes.

William Meeson.

24 June 1836.

Do you know whether the supply of the quantity that is consumed is equal to the quantity that they charge for?—I should imagine not.

Can you go farther than imagination; have not you every reason to believe that they charge for more than they supply?—I believe they do.

It is thought allowable to make a large overcharge?—Yes.

And they do so?—I have no doubt of it.

So that the sums paid at the public-houses do not show what the quantity consumed has been?—They do not.

As to those doorkeepers at 5 *s.* a day apiece; is not their work very laborious?—It is.

Do you know how many hours a day, upon an average, their work continues?—Some days 16 or 17 hours.

With regard to the burgesses' wives, do you know whether any money was given or not?—I was merely present when Mr. Walker gave it to Mr. Nixon and Mr. Cole.

Mr. Walker is a stranger at the town?—Not a stranger.

Does he live in the town?—He does not, but he is pretty well known in the town.

There was no regular list made out of the places where the men should go to pay the burgesses' wives?—There was a piece of paper with some names on it, but whether they took those names I cannot say.

Were not they to go to all the burgesses' houses indiscriminately?—They were.

And those lists were of the houses of the burgesses indiscriminately?—They were.

When you went to those public-houses did not you see a good number of those persons besides voters sitting there and drinking?—I did.

Strangers as well as inhabitants of Stafford?—Yes.

By a *Lord.*] No instructions were given to the publicans to confine their drink to voters?—There were not.

Re-examined by Mr. Austin.

You have said that the principal number of persons were voters?—No doubt of it.

You have said that Walker was well known at Stafford; was Walker also an old electioneerer?—I never saw him there before at elections.

Did you pay the bills of any publicans?—I did not.

When you say there was an overcharge, do you say that of your own knowledge?—I should imagine by the bills that they bring in that there was an overcharge.

They do not tax the bills very closely when they bring them?—No, they do not; they pay all the bills brought in generally speaking.

You have told my learned friend that you did not believe that Captain Gronow would have got in last time if he had treated as extensively as Mr. Goodricke; why would not he have got in?—Many would not vote for the man because he was a Whig.

Was not there another reason?—None that I am aware of.

Was not it supposed that Captain Gronow had been instrumental in exposing the weakness of the borough?—I never heard that named.

It was known at the last election that proceedings were pending in Parliament against the borough?—It was.

In your opinion had that any effect upon the election?—It had.

In your opinion did it prevent such extensive treating and bribing as took place at the former elections?—It did.

By a *Lord.*] Among the persons who frequented those public-houses that were open, were any of them respectable inhabitants of Stafford?—No; chiefly the lower orders.

You vote as a burgess?—I do.

But you would be qualified to vote as a householder if you were not a burgess?—I should.

Are there not a great many of the burgesses so situated?—There are.

Did you say that Mr. Goodricke was extremely popular because he was a Tory?—I did.

How

William Meeson.
24 June 1836.

How long has he been a Tory?—That I cannot tell.
Had not he been well known as a Whig shortly before?—Not that I am aware of.
What are Mr. Gifford's politics?—I do not know.
Did you never hear what they were?—I never did.
Did you understand that he was a Tory?—I do not know whether he was a Whig or a Tory.
You never heard that before the election?—I did not.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Charles Morris* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Charles Morris.

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you an innkeeper at Stafford?—No.
Do you keep the Vine tavern at Stafford?—No.
Do you live at Stafford?—No.
Where do you live?—About a mile beyond.
What are you?—A farmer.
Were you at the Vine tavern during the last election?—Sometimes.
Every day?—Yes.
Were you there every day previous to the election, for some time?—Most likely I was.
Have you any doubt about it?—No; I have not.
Were you on Mr. Goodricke's committee?—Yes.
Who were the other members of the committee?—Mr. Walker and Mr. Meeson.
Anybody else?—No.
Where did the general committee sit?—Indeed I do not know; we had no correspondence only amongst our three selves.
Do you mean to say that you did not know of any other committee?—No.
Had you any communication with any other committee sitting for Mr. Goodricke?—No.
Do you know the Swan?—Yes.
Was there a committee sitting there?—I do not know.
Did Mr. Goodricke stay there?—Yes.
Do you know Mr. Painter?—Yes.
Did you ever see him during the election?—Yes.
Did he come to you at the Vine?—Yes.
For what purpose?—He came sometimes with Mr. Goodricke.
Mr. Goodricke came with him?—Yes.
Was Meeson there then?—He was not always at the Vine.
But only when Mr. Goodricke came?—Yes.
And Mr. Walker?—Yes.
Did Mr. Painter give you any instructions during the election?—No.
None at all?—No.
Did you receive anything from him?—Yes.
What was it?—I received some money from him.
How much?—I cannot justly say how much.
Was it 5 *l.*, or 10 *l.*, or 20 *l.*?—Yes.
Fifty pounds?—Yes.
One hundred pounds?—I dare say it was.
Two hundred pounds?—No, I do not think it was.
Was it 150 *l.*—Well, I should say it was.
Where did you receive it?—I received it at the Swan.
Had you any instructions with it?—No.
Did he tell you what to do with the money?—No.
Did he say anything to you as to its application whatever?—No.
Did he put the money into your hand without speaking?—I asked him for the money.
For what?—To pay the publicans.
Did you receive it all at the same time?—No.
Every day, or at stated intervals?—About three times.
How much at each time?—Well, I think the first time about 20 *l.*
What the second?—About 70 *l.*

Charles Morris.

24 June 1836.

And the third?—Well, I think I had about 40 *l.* or 50 *l.*; I would not say exactly which.

Was that all?—That was all.

How did you distribute it?—To the publicans, at different times; sometimes in the morning, and sometimes at night.

To all the public-houses in Stafford?—Well, I do not know that I went to them all.

How many?—A good many; sometimes I went to one part of the town in the morning, and another part at night.

Were people in the houses drinking?—Yes.

Are you acquainted with the burgesses at Stafford?—Yes, a good many of them.

Were they principally burgesses?—Yes; but anybody drinks that likes.

But they were chiefly burgesses?—A good many of them.

Drinking ale and spirits?—Sometimes; I suppose they took spirits when they liked.

You went sometimes twice a day, you say?—Yes.

Had you any other money from any other person during the election?—Yes.

From whom?—From Mr. Walker.

How much money?—Indeed I do not know how much it was.

Was it given to you all at once?—No.

How many times did you receive it?—Indeed I cannot say.

Was it frequently?—Some part of the money that I had of Mr. Painter I gave to Mr. Walker.

But how many times did you receive money of Mr. Walker?—Perhaps three times or four.

How much money did you receive?—Indeed I do not know.

Was it 20 *l.*, or 30 *l.*, or 50 *l.*?—Indeed I cannot say.

Was it in bank notes?—In sovereigns.

Was it given to you into your hands?—Yes.

Did he count them?—Of course, when he gave them to me.

Did you count them?—I cannot tell; I had some three or four different times.

Cannot you tell me how much upon any one occasion of the four?—Indeed I do not know that I can.

Did you receive 20 *l.* or 50 *l.*?—I never received 50 *l.* of Mr. Walker at one time.

£. 20.?—No, I do not think I did.

£. 15.?—Perhaps I might.

At four times?—I did not receive 15 *l.* each time of Mr. Walker.

Did you receive 15 *l.* the first time?—No.

Will you swear you did not receive 20 *l.* at any time from him?—No, I will not.

Will you swear you did not receive 100 *l.*?—Yes, I will.

£. 50.?—Yes, I will.

£. 40.?—Yes.

Have you received 40 *l.*?—No, I have not.

£. 30.?—Not at a time.

What was the highest amount you received at one time?—I do not know.

Will you swear you have not received 20 *l.*?—I will not swear I have not received 20 *l.*, but I do not think I did to the best of my knowledge.

How did you employ that money?—I paid it to the publicans.

For the same purpose as the former sums you have spoken of?—Yes.

Did you receive money from any other person?—No.

Did you pay the money to any other person except to the publicans during the election?—No.

Not on any occasion?—No.

Did you pay any to the burgesses wives?—No.

Do you know of any lists having been made out?—Yes.

Where were those lists made?—They were made at the Vine.

Was Mr. Walker there?—Yes.

Did he order them to be made?—He helped to make them.

Did he give the money?—I believe he did.

Have

Have you been long acquainted with Stafford?—Yes.

Frequently at elections?—Yes. I never took an active part at elections.

How much money in the whole did you distribute during that election?—Indeed I do not know, I am sure.

You cannot tell?—No.

In what sums did you leave it with the publicans?—A sovereign or two at a place, or three; just as I thought.

What regulated the amount?—I had no regulation.

Were you guided by the number of persons drinking in the house?—Yes, by the different houses to what the customers went to, the houses; I knowed about how many burgesses went to the houses; not exactly the number; I knew the houses that they frequented the most.

And you left money in proportion to the number?—Yes.

Do you remember Mr. Painter coming to the Vine?—Yes.

Had you any conversation with him?—Yes.

Was it in a private or a public place?—Public.

Do you remember his coming there to see Mr. Walker?—Yes.

Had he conversation with him publicly or privately?—Privately; I did not hear much of their conversation.

Did they go out of the public room?—No.

Did they go into a corner a little aside?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whateley.

You say you saw Mr. (now Sir Francis) Goodricke with Walker at the Vine; once or twice was it?—Yes.

Was it when he was going round to the different public-houses canvassing?—Yes.

Are you quite sure that Mr. Meeson was there, or might he have been there before or after?—He might have been there before or after.

Do you state positively that Mr. Meeson was there when Mr. Goodricke came?—No, I will not say that; he might or might not.

You will not undertake to swear that?—No, I will not.

You received several sums of money from Mr. Walker and from Painter to distribute to the publicans?—Yes.

To whom did you account for that money?—To Mr. Walker.

Did you account to Mr. Walker for all the money you received which you distributed at the public-houses?—I did.

I need hardly ask you whether you accounted for the whole money you received?—Yes, I did.

Did you go into the public-houses whilst the persons were drinking?—Yes.

Were the persons drinking there all of them burgesses, or were there any that were not burgesses?—Oh! there were plenty that drank who were not burgesses.

And strangers, as well as inhabitants of the town, coming from the neighbourhood?—Yes.

When you gave the money did you give any limitation with it; that drink should be supplied to the voters of a particular candidate?—I asked the publican to do the best he could with it.

What did you mean by that?—To give it to the burgesses as well as he could.

Did you tell them to apply it to the friends of Mr. Goodricke?—Oh no, I never mentioned Mr. Goodricke's name.

Then did the burgesses go in and partake of the beer as well as the rest?—Yes.

And other persons as well?—Yes.

Is it your opinion that publicans charge for more or less than they supplied?—Indeed I do not know.

Not less?—Not less, I warrant.

Do you remember a house being measured and was found that it would not contain the quantity of ale that was charged?—Yes, I do.

Re-examined by Mr. Rushton.

Where was this house that was so measured?—The Roebuck.

Was that in Stafford?—Yes.

Charles Morris.

24 June 1836.

Was it measured to ascertain its contents?—It was ascertained the quantity of liquor that it would hold.

Was that for the purpose of checking the publican's bill?—No, it was in this way; I should say I do not know only by hearsay, I did not see it done myself; that it was an extraordinary bill, and the person charged got another person to go into the house and measure it.

Was this during the election at Stafford?—I do not know whether it was at the election or after.

At what election?—I do not know which it was.

Was it at the last?—No.

But it was at the Roebuck at Stafford?—Yes.

You say Mr. Goodricke came canvassing at the public-houses?—Yes.

When was that?—In January.

What day of the week?—I went with him on the Friday and Saturday.

And afterwards?—Yes; I was with him on Sunday, and Monday and Tuesday as well.

Was the drinking going on in the public-houses at that time?—Yes.

The Monday and Tuesday were the days of the election?—Yes.

You told my learned friend that you accounted for the money you had intrusted to you?—Yes.

Did you keep an account of it?—I settled with Mr. Walker every day I told him how much I had expended and how much I had.

Then you did not keep an account?—No, I had no book, and nothing of the sort.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Robert Walker* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Robert Walker.

Mr. *Austin.*] YOU are the steward of Mr. Gifford?—I am.

How long have you lived near Stafford?—Thirteen years.

Always in that capacity?—Yes, always.

Have you interfered with elections there?—Never for the borough.

The last was the first election in which you took part, was it?—It was.

And then you took part on behalf of Mr. Goodricke?—I did.

You were his agent, were you not?—I was.

We have been informed that there was a sub-committee sitting at the Vine inn?—There was.

Consisting of yourself, Mr. Meeson and Mr. Morris?—Yes.

There was also a principal committee sitting at the Swan?—There was, I believe.

Be so good as to inform their Lordships for what purpose the sub-committee was sitting at the Vine?—We had the management of most that was done; in fact, I managed nearly the whole.

I believe you disbursed certain sums of money at the Vine, did you not?—We did.

Was that in payment to publicans?—It was in payment to publicans.

Entirely or principally?—I may say entirely.

In what way was the money distributed among the publicans?—Mostly left at the houses for the men in the course of the day.

You giving it to Morris or to the other person, and leaving it at their houses; was that so?—Yes.

Where did you get it yourself from?—I got it from Mr. Painter, the principal part.

How much did you get altogether?—I have quite forgotten the exact sum, but I believe the accounts are here; I gave them all up to Mr. Holyoake after the election.

Can you recollect how much you had?—I think I had about 1,400 and some odd pounds.

From Painter?—And from the bank.

How was that 1,400*l.* applied?—The principal part was left at the public-houses during the election.

About how much was left at the public-houses during the election?—I cannot speak to particular sums, but I think about 800*l.*

How

Robert Walker.

24 June 1836.

How many public houses?—I cannot tell every public house in the town.

Was it distributed by other persons than by Morris and Meeson?—It might have been, but I cannot speak to who the parties were now.

What became of the other 600*l.*?—£.600. and the odd pounds were paid after the election, about 14 days, to persons who brought in accounts.

The whole sum of 1,400*l.* being paid to publicans?—Yes.

In fact, being paid for drink, and so on, given to the voters?—Yes; there might be some little more for printers.

But the great bulk paid to publicans?—Yes.

Did you receive all from Painter which you did not get from the bank?—I believe I did, all.

Meeson you employed, and you also employed Morris to distribute?—Yes.

Did you know one Holday, who went under the nickname of the Dudley Devil?—I did not know him by any other name than the Dudley Devil and the Man in the Moon.

Where was he imported from?—From Birmingham.

Who sent for him?—I sent to Birmingham for a person to come; but I never saw him before he came.

To whom did you apply at Birmingham?—To Mr. Raydenhurst, of the Nelson Hotel at Birmingham.

For what did you apply when you applied for the Dudley Devil?—Merely to go round from public-house to public-house to keep them open.

Why did you take a stranger to the town; what was your object?—I do not know what was the reason.

What was your object in it?—I had no object in it at all; I was asked to get some person, and I did so.

Who asked you to get him?—I do not know who it was; it was talked of in the committee room.

What committee room?—At the Swan, on the second day of the election.

Were you present at the Swan?—Not more than once or twice during the election.

Were you a member of the Swan committee?—I was not.

You were present when this was talked of?—I was.

Who proposed that some person should be sent for?—I cannot say.

Who was present at the time in the committee room?—I cannot say.

Was Mr. Painter there?—I think he was.

He was in the chair?—Yes.

Was Mr. Goodricke there?—I cannot say, for I never saw him but three times during the election.

Will you venture to say he was not present?—No, I will not.

It had been determined, had it, that the public-houses should be open?—I do not know that any determination had been made about it, or whether it was done without thought.

Whether it was done by tacit understanding?—Yes.

You do not know whether it had been done at former elections?—I understand so.

How much money did you give to this person?—I cannot tell.

Did you give the principal part to this man?—No, I should think not more than one-third of the whole.

But you might give a third of the whole to this man?—Yes.

Was there any other person to whom you gave so large a sum?—I should think that Mr. Morris and myself had the other two-thirds, or something of that.

I presume those houses were opened for the purpose of entertaining the voters?—It was to entertain every creature that chose to eat and drink.

Was it to entertain the voters that those houses were opened?—It was for every person that chose to eat and drink; and I believe every person in the town did partake, or nearly so.

Were you in the public-houses for any part of the time?—I might be in for a few minutes.

You do not know the burgesses personally?—No.

Robert Walker.

24 June 1836.

If Mr. Meeson has said that the company consisted principally of burgesses, would you dispute it?—I would not; because he knows them, and I do not.

You delivered in your accounts?—I did.

And you had your quietus?—I have had no quietus.

How long was this person, the Dudley Devil, in Stafford?—I should like to tell you the truth if I knew it.

During all the six days?—No; I think he came on the Friday morning.

And the treating began on the Tuesday morning?—No, it commenced on the Tuesday night, I believe; I was not there till the Tuesday afternoon myself.

But it continued after the election?—No.

When did it close?—Mostly on the Monday night.

Did it continue into Tuesday?—It might a very little.

Were you present in the public-houses on the Tuesday?—I was present in the town from place to place, getting the voters brought up generally, but not particularly in the public-houses.

When did the Dudley Devil go?—I think on the Tuesday night; but I really do not know.

Did you pay him for his services?—Yes.

What did you give him?—I have quite forgotten what the sum was; I think it was 20 *l.* or guineas.

By a Lord.] He was not a voter, was he?—He was not a voter.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whateley.

Of course, whether he went back to the Moon, or, as a Devil, went down to some other place, you do not know?—I have never seen him since.

You have said that you paid 600 *l.* and odd after the election?—Yes.

Is it your belief that that was due?—I considered on the Tuesday morning we did not owe a farthing, except at one house; I know that there was a bill at the Vine for me and the party, and if we had settled the account that night I believe there would have been nothing afterwards.

But, to avoid dispute, you paid the 600 *l.*?—Yes, we did.

Is it your judgment that drink or other things were not furnished for that sum of money?—I believe they were not; I said at the time that I believed they were not.

You are talking of the 600 *l.* that you paid since the election?—Yes.

You said that perhaps all was not paid for drink; will whatever it was paid for appear by Mr. Holyoake's account?—Yes.

Did you receive accounts for all that you paid, and render those accounts to Mr. Holyoake?—I did.

And took vouchers for the payments?—I believe there was a voucher for every payment.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Robert Farrant*, Esq., was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

R. Farrant, Esq.

Mr. *Rushton.*] I BELIEVE you were a candidate for the representation of the borough of Stafford at the last election?—I was.

Are you aware that there was much treating in the town?—Yes, there was.

Mr. Webb has given us an account of certain sums of money that were paid into his bank during the election on your behalf?—Yes.

Was that lodged for the purpose of treating the burgesses?—It was; it was for election purposes.

Was it expended in treating the burgesses?—It was.

The whole sum?—Including travelling, the whole sum.

What did that amount to?—To the best of my recollection, I should say it did not exceed 800 *l.*; it possibly might be 1,000 *l.* altogether, from first to last.

£. 1,000. covered the whole of the expenses?—Yes, more than covered, I should say.

And 800 *l.* was spent in treating the voters?—Yes.

Do you know how the money was distributed?—By paying public-house bills.

By

By persons employed?—Yes, I paid them myself; they were enormous bills that were made out; and I venture to say that 40 *s.* in the pound was paid for what was had of those publicans.

Did you go round to the public-houses yourself?—I did.

Were they filled with persons drinking?—They were.

Did you pay all the bills yourself?—I should say most of them.

Who paid the remainder?—Mr. Passmore.

He was your professional agent?—Yes.

What amount did you pay yourself out of the 800 *l.*?—I should say from 400 *l.* to 500 *l.*

Cross-examined by Mr. Whitmore.

Did that sum which you have now spoken of include any other disbursements besides those of the publicans; it included all your election expenses?—Yes; a great deal was paid for ringing-fees of the election, and it included every expense.

There was no bribery on your part; I need not ask you?—None whatever.

You had 312 votes?—Yes.

Of those who voted for you, what is your own opinion; that they voted upon pure or corrupt motives?—There could be nothing but the most pure motives possible.

How long have you known the constituency of Stafford?—I have known them for three years.

You had been a candidate before?—I was, at the election of 1832; but I did not go to the poll.

But you have known the constituency of Stafford from the year 1832?—Yes.

Are you able to make a comparison of what it is now, and what it was in 1832?—I should say they are most decidedly improved.

The whole body of them?—I should say the whole body.

In what respect?—Inasmuch as a person going down against myself, I venture to say that, take what money they might, they would not prevent my being returned; and that by a considerable majority.

Can you account for that change in the constituency of Stafford?—I should think it arose principally after what occurred in the year 1832; the burgesses were aware of the mal-practices they had been guilty of, and were resolved to purify themselves; most distinctly so.

You believe that the burgesses were resolved to purify themselves?—I do.

And that there is that wish on the part of the burgesses?—I should say that of nine-tenths of the whole.

Is it your opinion that nine-tenths of the whole present constituency of Stafford would act upon pure principles in any future election?—I am satisfied that they would.

That they would not be accessible to bribery?—Nine-tenths of them would not.

Are you acquainted with the town of Stafford itself well?—Tolerably well; I have been there some three or four times.

I believe you were the person who caused the Bribery Oath to be administered at the last election?—Yes.

What was your reason for doing that?—Because after the poll had begun a couple of hours some of the men who had promised me their votes voted for Gronow; I consequently suspected that some unfair means were resorted to, and I consequently caused the Bribery Oath to be administered.

Did you make that resolution known?—Yes.

The resolution was proclaimed, was it?—Yes, by the Mayor.

How was that received?—By cheers from the men; they were very sorry I did not begin with it.

Was that general?—Very general. My own wish was to begin with the Bribery Oath, but my friends recommended me not, it being a very unusual practice; but I was obliged to do it about two hours after the poll began.

Did you make any public statement that you were not about to buy votes?—I said repeatedly to them, which I think can be proved by other evidence

R. Farrant, Esq.

24 June 1836.

than my own, that if 1 *s.* would secure my election I would not pay it in the way of a bribe.

Your own politics, I believe, are conservative?—They are so.

Were those politics known at the election?—Perfectly.

Captain Chetwynd, who stands between you and Mr. Goodricke, is connected with the town?—I believe he is.

He is a great favourite there, and deservedly so?—I know nothing to the contrary.

His family are connected with the county and with the town?—Certainly.

Re-examined by Mr. Rushton.

You told my learned friend that you believe that nine-tenths of the burgesses of Stafford were pure?—That they would be at a future election.

But not at the last?—At the last we knew of many that were bribed for Gronow, and whether that reduces it to nine-tenths I do not know, but I should say about that; I should say at the present moment nine-tenths would not be bribed.

They voted from the most pure motives?—Yes; those that voted for me did.

And you state that you paid 800 *l.*?—Yes; and I told you that that was 40 *s.* in the pound paid.

You told my learned friend that at the last election you thought that the burgesses had resolved to purify themselves?—Yes.

Did you think that that resolution had any connexion with the proceedings in Parliament?—I think that the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons had a good effect upon them.

Is it your belief that a person who takes ale and spirits and is treated during the days of the election can be said to vote from the most pure motives?—I think, if the man has made up his mind, that that does not influence him.

Would the 312 votes which were received for you have been given without treating?—You are obliged to expend money there to make yourself known.

Do you think that the 312 votes would have been received by you if you had not expended that money in the public houses?—No; because I could not have made myself known without.

You have been at Stafford more than once?—Yes.

Is it your intention to go again as a candidate?—I do not think that is a fair question, unless I am required to answer it.

By a Lord.] You were not returned at the last election?—No.

Is it your opinion that if you had expended more money you would have been returned?—No.

You do not think that if you had given enough money, as Captain Gronow has done, you would have been returned?—No. I do not know what money might have done, but I had it not in contemplation; after the election of 1832 I took it for granted that all that impurity would have been done away.

The question is directed to the effect of such a proceeding. Mr. Holyoake told us that he spent a sum of money three times what you spent; was not his brother's being at the top of the poll in consequence of his liberal expenditure?—I do not think so. I think a man coming to the borough of Stafford under the auspices of Mr. Gifford would have had as many votes as Mr. Goodricke; and if I had known Mr. Gifford I am quite satisfied that I should have been returned as well as Mr. Goodricke.

And he expended 700 *l.*?—Yes, he very likely did; I believe all the burgesses bribed at the last election are all that could be bribed.

You do not know how many were bribed?—I have heard from 160 to 190; 190 were the utmost.

Have you any reason to suppose that any money was given for votes except by Captain Gronow's friends?—I verily believe, on the contrary, that there was not by any of the other candidates; I will swear that there was not by myself, or any of my agents or friends.

Did you all four stand singly upon your own interests, or was there any connexion?—No connexion whatever; all separate.

From what you know of Stafford, is there not a considerable number of very respectable inhabitants in that town?—A vast number.

Men

Men quite incapable of being influenced by bribery to vote at an election?—Yes; quite incapable.

Do you know any country town in England, for its size, that has a more respectable body of inhabitants?—No. I have been returned to Parliament four times for a constituency in Yorkshire; but I am not aware of a town that is more eligible to send members to Parliament at the present moment; not alluding to what has taken place.

In as far as any influence is produced by treating at the public houses, is that confined to the lower class of the town?—Quite the lower classes. Of the 312 who voted for me, for I was rather late in the canvass, I should say that nine-tenths of those were the poorer class; nine-tenths of those are the very men who would take bribes if offered to them; I should say eleven-twelfths, if I said right.

Did you know whether any of those votes were split votes with Mr. Gronow?—I think there were some.

Any considerable number; 40 or 50?—I have not looked at the poll-book to ascertain it; I do not know; I think I had some from every candidate. I had not above one or two single votes.

Has there not been, on the part of the respectable inhabitants, strong indignation expressed at the conduct of the freemen in accepting bribes?—Very great indeed; they were quite shocked at the last election.

Is there not a determination to set their faces against any person who offers a bribe?—Yes.

When did that feeling begin, of being so shocked?—At the last election.

That was the first time?—That I know of.

You were at the election in 1832?—I did not wait five minutes after the poll began.

There was a good deal of bribing then?—I know nothing about it.

Are you not aware that there was?—I only know it from reading the Evidence of the Committee.

Was not virtuous horror expressed at the bribery in 1832?—I know nothing about 1832.

You say that a great change has taken place?—Yes.

Do you know the nature of the change?—I know that the present feeling of the borough is very different from what it was when the evidence was taken in 1832.

You only know it from the evidence?—Exactly so.

You do not know whether those respectable people felt that virtuous indignation on former occasions that they do now, or that they did not feel it?—I do not know in 1832.

Did you know Stafford before 1832?—I was never near it.

Do you know whether there were any respectable people at the time?—I did not know it.

Then all this virtuous indignation of respectable people, you suppose, has originated in a fresh population since 1832?—No, not originated; I should think that not the case.

You know nothing about it; you know that there is that feeling at present, but you do not know of your own knowledge that any change has taken place?—There must be a change; the same feeling might have prevailed in 1832 as there does now among the respectable class.

Then no change has taken place; you said a change had taken place?—The change that I alluded to has taken place in the poorer men who were in the habit of taking bribes.

You know what their feeling was on a former occasion?—I know from the evidence taken in 1832.

Was there any horror expressed at the idea of bribes?—There was on the part of many poorer men.

Was it a horror at the idea of being disfranchised?—I dare say it was, partly.

That was the foundation of the virtuous horror?—I think very likely.

Do not you feel confident that it was?—I cannot positively say.

Have you any doubt that it was?—The fact is that they disliked the evidence, and the risk of losing the borough; from what was stated in 1832, that they determined not to repeat those mal-practices.

R. Farrant, Esq.

24 June 1836.

Do not you consider that conviction on the part of the inhabitants of Stafford, that a continuation of such corrupt practices must lead to their disfranchisement, would prevent in future its taking place to any great extent?—I do, most solemnly.

Your first acquaintance with the borough was in 1832?—Yes.

You have kept up some interest in it ever since?—Yes.

Did you take up the part of the independence of the borough in 1832?—Not at all; I was not called upon.

[*The witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till Tuesday next, at Three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Martis, 28° *Junii* 1836.

THE order of the day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford in the County of Stafford from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their Counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their Petition;

Counsel were called in.

Then *Thomas Davis Weaver*, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

T. D. Weaver.

28 June 1836.

Mr. *Austin.*] WHAT is your name?—Thomas Davis Weaver.

Are you a solicitor at Stafford?—I am.

You are also an elector?—Yes.

As a householder or a freeman?—As a householder.

Were you agent for Captain Chetwynd at the last election?—Yes, I was.

You were the principal agent?—Yes; I was the professional agent.

Now, was there any treating at the last election on the part of Captain Chetwynd's friends?—There was some ale given, and some spirits, and some money left at the different houses for them to drink.

Was that money left at all the houses in the town?—I do not know that it was left at all the houses; it was left at all the houses considered Captain Chetwynd's houses; indeed most of the houses in the town.

Do you know to what extent money was expended in treating?—I cannot of my own knowledge speak to that; but I should think that the expenses of the election would be about 700 *l.*, including the Captain's return, and what he paid for the admission of young burgesses.

Did he pay for the admission of the young burgesses?—Each of the candidates always does.

And that was done at the last election?—Yes.

Did it require some considerable exertions to return Captain Chetwynd at the last election?—Yes, it did.

You are well acquainted with the town I believe?—Yes.

And with the mode of conducting elections there?—Yes.

I will ask you, as a fair man, whether you think Captain Chetwynd's return could have been effected without the treating; supposing there had been no treating at all?—All the respectability of the town would vote for Captain Chetwynd, certainly.

And did, I believe?—Yes.

And yet you say that treating took place to a certain extent; to the extent you describe?—Yes, necessarily; I think so.

I will put the question to you again. In spite of the respectable portion of the electors having voted for Captain Chetwynd, and though he is locally connected with the place, do you think it would have been prudent to have conducted

conducted the election without resorting to treating?—No; Captain Chetwynd would have been under great disadvantage.

T. D. Weaver.

28 June 1836.

Would he have got in without treating?—No; perhaps not.

You are well acquainted with the place?—Yes; I am acquainted with the place; and that is my opinion.

I ask you your opinion, as being well acquainted with the place; in your opinion, was not the treating at the last election for Stafford as extensive as you had ever known it at any previous election?—Not on Captain Chetwynd's part.

Was not it as general as you had ever known it?—It was very general and extensive.

At the election of 1832 I believe Captain Chetwynd's friends resorted to the old bribery system, did they not?—I have heard of it.

Have you any doubt of it?—No, I have not.

In what situation on the poll was Captain Chetwynd at the close of the poll; do you recollect the numbers?—No.

Had he 739 voters?—I dare say he had.

And Captain Gronow 526?—It may be so.

Do you not recollect that Captain Chetwynd came first on the poll?—Yes.

Do you know how Captain Chetwynd stood at the last election?—I know he had 426 pure votes at the last election.

You do not take the treating in as part of the impurity?—I do not say that what they had to drink was anything.

That was the number he had?—Yes, I think that was the number.

It was generally known in Stafford, I presume, that proceedings had taken place in Parliament with reference to the disfranchisement of that borough?—Yes, it must have been known.

Do you not know that it was?—Yes.

Do you not know that that produced some effect as to the bribery?—Yes.

That it lessened the bribery?—Yes, it must.

Have you any doubt of it?—No.

Pray what proportion of the electors of Stafford are householders, and what proportion are freemen; do you know?—The freemen, I should think, were considerably more than, perhaps two-thirds; I cannot say; more than the majority.

You think more than two-thirds?—Perhaps two-thirds; more than the majority, I am sure.

The great bulk of the body was formerly accessible to bribes, was it not?—Of my own personal knowledge I cannot say.

What part did you take in former elections; had you ever any concern in the bribing department?—Never, as to bribery; I once had a ticket given, but I never knew anything as to paying.

You only know generally what was taking place?—Yes, generally what has taken place.

You can answer that question nevertheless?—Will you repeat it?

As to how many freemen were, before the last election, accessible to bribes?—It is impossible to say the exact number, but perhaps the majority.

And something more than the majority, is it not?—Very probably it may.

Very probably the totality, is it not; would you like to say it would not extend to the totality?—I would not say that.

Is it not a habit confirmed in the lower voters of Stafford?—Yes, I rather think it is, and I believe it has been the practice in several instances.

Do you not know, of your own knowledge, that that is a habit rooted in the constituency of the place — the freemen?—Of my own knowledge I cannot say whether they expect to be always paid; I have no doubt, by general general, it has been so said.

You have been mixed up with elections a good deal?—Yes.

Have you not the means of knowing the state of the constituency in that respect?—I know they have been paid.

Have you not the means of knowing the state of the constituency in that respect?—Perhaps the majority of them.

Have you not the means of ascertaining that?—Yes; I might have had the means without ———

Never mind that; first of all, have you had the means?—Yes.

T. D. Weaver.

28 June 1836.

Having had the means of ascertaining the fact, I ask you whether you can tell their lordships, of your own knowledge, what the fact is?—It has been some time since I had the means; not latterly.

I want to know what the fact was?—There are 400 of the burgesses perhaps who expect to be paid something of that sort; by tickets I mean.

I am asking you the character of the burgesses with respect to their accessibility to corruption?—Their character is, that they expect to be paid.

Do you doubt it from your own means of knowledge; do you doubt that that character is deservedly imputed to them?—I am afraid they do deserve that character.

Do you not think they deserve that character at this moment as much as they ever did?—I before said that 456 voted for Captain Chetwynd without being paid.

I am asking you of the body of the freemen; you say the respectable people voted for Captain Chetwynd?—I do not know what effect these proceedings may have had upon them.

Do you believe that anything else but disfranchisement will ever get rid of that character?—That is impossible for me say; I do not know whether I can give an opinion correctly.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whitmore.

You say you were agent for Captain Chetwynd at the last election?—Yes.

And that the total money spent by him upon that election was 700 *l.*?—About that.

Did that include every possible expense of the election?—Yes, I should think so.

Did that include the cost of the band and the flags?—Yes. When I speak of 700 *l.* or 800 *l.* I speak of the whole expense of the election.

You said there was some portion of it paid for the admission of young burgesses?—Yes.

Do you know whether they voted?—I cannot say whether they did or not.

Would they be entitled to vote?—No.

They would not be on the register?—Not under the Reform Bill.

By a *Lord.*] Can you say that they did not vote?—They did not vote, certainly, at the last election,

By *Counsel.*] Of your own knowledge, what do you know of this treating on the part of Captain Chetwynd?—I know no more than that we went round to the public houses.

What was the amount of the money you distributed?—I do not know that I distributed any; I saw 5 *s.* or 10 *s.*, or 1 *l.* or 2 *l.* left; but others went round also.

What is the utmost you will swear was left, to your knowledge, by the friends of Captain Chetwynd?—I cannot swear to that; there may have been 2 *l.* left.

That is the utmost you will swear to?—I do not swear to that; I speak of what I saw; I did not pay the money.

As far as you saw, what is the utmost you will venture to say that Captain Chetwynd spent in treating?—The whole sum I cannot say; I should estimate all the expenses at 700 *l.* or 800 *l.*

Is it a matter of speculation, on your part, how large a portion of it was spent in treating; or do you know?—It is mere matter of speculation; I do not know.

Can you speak to any part of the treating?—I have seen 5 *s.* or 10 *s.* left, or 1 *l.*

What is the utmost you will swear to?—I never saw more than 2 *l.* left, and then more to solicit the votes than as to the payment.

Captain Gronow, it seems, had 246 votes at the last election; do you know how many he had at the previous election?—I have not the poll-book.

Do you not know that he had 526?—I dare say he had.

The difference between the two totals was greater than the difference between the numbers that voted for Captain Chetwynd upon those occasions?—Yes, supposing the numbers to be correct; the numbers may be greater.

Have you had yourself anything to do with the elections of late years, except

except the last one?—I was not concerned in Captain Chetwynd's former election.

How long is it before the last election since you had anything to do with the election at Stafford?—I was concerned in two for Mr. Hawkes.

What years were those in?—1830 and 1831.

On behalf of Mr. Hawkes are you acquainted with any acts of bribery at all?—If you mean by giving tickets, I must say that I am; on the first election.

Was any money given for votes on the first election of Mr. Hawkes?—There were tickets given.

Was there money?—At the first election of Mr. Hawkes the other parties were doing it, and Mr. Hawkes was reluctantly compelled to give 5 *s.* tickets.

Was there any large sum given by him?—I do not know that he ever gave another 5 *s.* ticket.

Did he ever give what is called vote money?—No.

At neither of those elections?—No.

In 1831, was that which you call ticket money given by Mr. Hawkes?—No; not a farthing.

By a Lord.] Was Mr. Hawkes successful as a candidate?—Not in 1831; nor in 1830.

By Counsel.] What were the numbers of Mr. Hawkes?—I believe that Mr. Hawkes was within about 30 of being returned on the last election.

On the first election, how did he stand upon the first day's poll?—I think he had a majority over Mr. Gisborne.

From the means of knowledge you have of the character of the feeemen, you say you think about 400 of the old burgesses expected to be paid?—Very likely there may be, but it is impossible for me to say.

At the time you spoke of?—I spoke of the number of tickets given.

That was at the former elections?—Yes; that is the only mode I have of ascertaining.

Then, as you form your opinion only from those premises, you would form a different opinion if at any election there had been a less number of tickets given?—If you take the general character of the borough out of the question I should.

You say you found your opinion on the number of tickets given?—In some measure I do.

Do you know yourself anything with regard to the last election besides what took place with regard to Captain Chetwynd?—No.

You do not know of any tickets being given?—Not of my own knowledge.

By a Lord.] When you speak of tickets, do you always understand 5 *s.* tickets?—They are generally 5 *s.* tickets; sometimes they are more.

When you speak of tickets they are 5 *s.* tickets?—Yes.

By Counsel.] At the last election, 1835, did you go round canvassing for Captain Chetwynd?—I did.

Were the promises given to him very freely?—Yes; they were given to him freely.

Without any promise of money?—Certainly, without any promise of money; Captain Chetwynd never meant to give any.

During Captain Chetwynd's canvass for the election of 1835 there was no promise of any money on his part?—Certainly not; not a sixpence.

Nor expectation on the part of the voters?—No.

He did not intend to give any?—No; and he expressed himself to that effect. I do not think the voters that voted for Captain Chetwynd would expect any.

When you say that all the respectability of the town voted for Captain Chetwynd, are you aware of the persons who voted for Sir Francis Goodricke?—No; but when I speak of the respectability of the town, I mean the great portion of the town, taking the town as a whole.

The people you call the least respectable part voted for Captain Gronow?—Yes; journeymen shoemakers.

Of those who voted for Captain Chetwynd, some portion were freemen?—Yes; some of them were.

A considerable portion?—Yes; and some of those freemen would not be bribed; I do not mean to say that all the freeman would be.

T. D. Weaver.

28 June 1836.

Re-examined by Mr. Austin.

You say that the respectable people voted for Captain Chetwynd, most of the lower class voted for Captain Gronow; do you mean there were not a great many respectable people who voted for Sir Francis Goodricke?—Yes.

Great numbers of freemen?—Yes.

I do not understand you to say that those were persons who would not expect bribes?—No.

The promises were freely given to Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

Tell me how many promises were given on the canvassing?—Considerably more than the number of votes; that is always the case.

Do you know what class of voters they were that did not give their promises?—The less respectable part, certainly.

Were they freemen?—They were freemen.

Can you tell us what sum of money Captain Chetwynd spent upon that election?—I cannot.

You told me 700 *l.*; and you have since said 800 *l.*?—I should certainly say not more than 800 *l.*, from what I know of it.

You cannot say how much of that was spent in treating?—And paying for the young burgesses, and for Captain Chetwynd's return.

How much was paid for the young burgesses?—£. 30 or 40 *l.* alone; and about 20 *l.* fees for the return to the sheriff and town clerk.

What else is there?—The music and door-keeping.

Can you form any probable guess of the proportion of this sum spent in treating?—Perhaps 500 *l.*; I cannot tell; this is merely an opinion; I am not asserting it.

Have you got your accounts?—No.

Where are they?—I do not know of any account kept of the money that was paid.

Do I understand you to say that no account was kept by means of which you can give an answer?—No, I do not.

The best estimate you can form is 500 *l.* for treating?—Yes, in treating.

Can you at all inform the House how many of Captain Chetwynd's voters partook of the treating; have you any notion?—No, I have not; a great many of them would not.

Would half, do you think?—No, I should think half did not.

Probably a third partook of the treating; is that so? You know the class of voters?—Yes, I should say so; but many partook of the treating that did not vote for Captain Chetwynd.

But I want to know how many of his voters did partake of the treating?—That is a question that I could not answer without looking carefully down the poll-book. There would be less partake of the treating for Captain Chetwynd than any of the other candidates.

Than Sir Francis Goodricke's voters, for instance?—Yes, I should say so, certainly.

Who was at the head of the poll? pray tell me why this money was paid for the admission of young burgesses?—I cannot say; I believe it is always the custom. Captain Chetwynd objected to it; but if he had not done it, it would have prejudiced him very much in the eyes of the burgesses.

How do you mean that it would have prejudiced him in the eyes of the burgesses?—It is the custom for the candidates to divide the cost of admitting the burgesses.

What would have been the effect of that?—It would have given the votes to Sir Francis Goodricke or Mr. Farrant.

At all events against Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

You mean at another election?—Yes.

Has it always been the practice, do I understand you to say?—It has always been the practice, and before the Reform Bill they were allowed to vote; now they cannot.

Has it been the practice at the two elections since the Reform Bill passed?—I believe it has.

Do you not know that the greater number of lower voters voted for Mr. Goodricke?—I believe they did.

At this last election?—At the last election.

And

T. D. Weaver.

28 June 1836.

And I suppose you are no stranger to the treating on the part of Mr. Goodricke?—No, I am not.

That is pretty notorious in the town?—It was indeed.

Do you not attribute the fact of Mr. Goodricke being at the head of the poll to that treating, which was notorious indeed?—You ask for my opinion?

I do?—I should certainly attribute it to that.

Do you believe that if he had not treated at all that he would have been Member for the place; I again ask for your opinion?—Mr. Gifford's interest may have had something to do with it, but I should say that if he had not treated I think he would not have been returned.

You have been referred to Mr. Hawkes's first election; you say at that election he gave 5 *s.* tickets, and you are not sure that he did not give 10 *s.* tickets, or two 5 *s.* tickets?—I am not quite sure whether I did it for him.

You were his agent, were you?—Yes; the committee asked me to favour him.

About the 5 *s.* tickets you have no doubt?—No.

You think there were two 5 *s.* tickets?—I am inclined to think that there were.

To what extent were they given?—I almost forget the sums now; they were pretty generally given, I know.

At the second election you say there were no tickets given?—No; Captain Hawkes determined not to do it; I advised him not to do it; and he would not have done it the first time, but the other parties did it.

Could you, or could you not, at that second election, when he was defeated, have brought him in by money?—Yes, I could.

You have no doubt about that?—No.

By a Lord.] Are you yourself a burgess?—Yes; not a burgess; I am a householder, and have a right to vote.

Do you vote as a freeman or as a householder?—As a householder.

You are not a freeman?—No. I was upon the corporation; and I might perhaps have voted in that character, but I never have.

There was at the last election very general treating by all the candidates?—I consider that Captain Chetwynd treated less than any other candidate, except Sir Charles Wolseley.

Was Sir Charles Wolseley a candidate at the last election?—Yes.

But with the other candidates there was general treating?—Yes.

The inns in the town were open to almost all persons who chose to go in?—Yes, I should say so.

Of the persons that went in, were there not many that partook of what is called treating who would not be moved thereby to give their vote? Was it not a case of an election in a town in which, the houses being opened, persons, from habit, went and partook of the treating without being specially bribed thereby to give their vote?—Oh yes; they went and partook of the treating there without being bribed; certainly without any money.

Is the county election held at Stafford?—Yes; there is one polling place there.

Are not generally, at that county election, those houses also open?—The houses are open for refreshment; they have a ticket to have refreshment, eating and drinking to a very limited extent.

But at those county elections which are held in the borough of Stafford this treating to a limited extent goes on, though it is called by the name of refreshment?—Yes; but at county elections it is very limited indeed; it is merely to go and get perhaps a jug of ale, and something to eat, and return home.

But it does take place?—It takes place sometimes to that extent; but that is not general; I do not know that it is general; I have known it to be so.

Have you ever known an election for the county, held in Stafford, when there were not open houses; and persons, whether voters or not voters, went in and got refreshment?—The voters go in and get refreshment, a jug of ale or bread and cheese, and return home.

You would not suppose that any persons in the county of Stafford are induced by that fact to give their votes one way or the other?—No; certainly not.

That some most independent yeomen and farmers came in and partook of that refreshment without thinking at the time that they were taking anything that was unlawful?—No, they do not believe it unlawful, I should say.

T. D. Weaver.

28 June 1836.

What is the general condition of those freemen at Stafford?—They are journeymen shoemakers.

Mostly in very limited circumstances?—Yes; perhaps some of them in indigent circumstances; very badly off.

When you say, therefore, that any person coming with money in his pocket may bribe them, should not you say any persons so situated would be open to bribery anywhere, if candidates would use those means of election?—Yes, I should.

Do you think that there is anything peculiar in the journeyman shoemakers of Stafford, that makes them like a bribe more than the journeymen shoemakers of any other place?—No, certainly not.

If a gentleman will come down and will bribe them, they would be open to bribes in Stafford as anywhere else?—Yes; it is a temptation that they cannot resist, perhaps, from their poverty.

Knowing Stafford as you do, do not you believe that there is an extensive constituency of respectable persons who would not be bribed?—A very respectable constituency certainly there is.

Was there not at the last election considerable indignation expressed by the respectable inhabitants of the town that bribery had been resorted to?—Yes; great indignation expressed.

Do you know yourself of any bribery at the last election, except that by Captain Gronow?—No; I do not of my own knowledge know of any.

What do these journeymen shoemakers earn in their wages?—I believe the trade is very good now; they earn 4*s.* or 5*s.* a day.

Do you think that there is a certain propensity in journeymen shoemakers to love a bribe?—I do not know whether there is a tendency to love a bribe or drink most.

But you stated, in answer to a question, that journeymen shoemakers at Stafford are not more prone to be bribed at Stafford than elsewhere?—No, I think not.

You have been asked very much as to treating in Stafford at the county election; is it the same sort of thing as the treating at the borough elections?—No; it is a different sort of scene.

And at the last election at Stafford it was a very different scene from that which took place at the county election?—Yes.

Universal treating at every alehouse in Stafford?—County elections are very different from what they were formerly.

The question is as to the last town election; it was an universal treating at all the alehouses?—Yes.

Totally different from the county election?—Yes, totally different.

All the alehouses were opened at the town election?—Yes; the constituency are all residing in the town.

A great deal of drunkenness?—Yes.

And you think that that treating has a great influence upon the election?—I have no doubt that the treating has a great influence upon the election.

You stated in your examination that you knew that Captain Chetwynd did not intend to bribe; that he had expressed himself to that effect; to whom?—To me; he said that if a guinea would procure the election he would not do it, for he had had enough of that at the previous one.

Enough of bribery?—He did not say of bribery; and with the evidence before his eyes he said that he would not attempt any such thing; that he never would.

Did he express that intention of not bribing to anybody but you in your hearing?—I dare say he did.

In your hearing?—I am not sure that he did not to others.

How came he to express that; was anybody asking him whether he would give any money?—No; there might be some talk that there was bribery going forward.

And so he determined not to do it on this occasion?—Yes; he said that if a guinea would procure the election he would not give it away, or a shilling.

You know nothing about the previous election?—Not in 1832, I do not.

Do you know of any bribery at all in the last election?—No; of my own knowledge I do not.

Have you understood that there was bribery at the last election?—I understood that there were several bribed by Captain Gronow's party. *T. D. Weaver.* 28 June 1836.

By anybody else?—Am I to speak from hearsay?

Did you understand that there was anybody?—I have heard of something, but I do not know of anything of my own knowledge.

Do you believe it?—Really I cannot say anything further, than being concerned for Captain Chetwynd I know that there was none on his part.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *Austin* stated, that he had completed the evidence with respect to the last election, and that he was now about to call evidence of the preceding election.

Thomas Davis Weaver, was again called in; and further Examined as follows:

Mr. *Austin.*] WERE you concerned in the election of 1832?—No.

Not at all?—No, I was not.

Were you in the town at that time?—Yes, I was.

Were you engaged in any way in the proceedings at the election?—Very likely; taking the poll or being in the court.

Are you aware whether or not there were any corrupt practices at that election in 1832?—I am not aware of it of my own knowledge.

What you know then, is from hearsay in the town?—From report.

Do you know whether or not any money was paid on the part of Captain Chetwynd at that election?—I do not of my own knowledge.

Was any paid after the election?—I do not know of my own knowledge.

Do you know Mr. Charles Webb?—Yes.

Is he acquainted with these proceedings, to your knowledge?—On the part of Captain Chetwynd, I should say not.

On the part of any of the candidates?—It would be on the part of Mr. Blount if he was; I think he was the agent of Mr. Blount.

Do you know who managed that election for Captain Chetwynd?—No; I cannot say particularly who managed it; there were three or four of Captain Chetwynd's friends.

Do you know who managed the money part of that election?—No; I know very little about that election indeed.

Do you know Mr. John Smith, the liquor-merchant?—Yes.

Did he manage it?—He is a friend of Captain Chetwynd, and perhaps he might.

Mr. William Biddulph or Mr. William Dudley?—Mr. William Dudley, I believe, voted for Captain Chetwynd.

Did he manage the election?—Certainly not; I should say not manage it.

Who managed Captain Gronow's election; do you know?—I think there was a gentleman came from London; Mr. Leatheridge or Mr. Harding.

Do not you know of your own knowledge that there was extensive bribery at that election?—Not of my own knowledge I do not.

Have you any means of knowing, so as to give evidence before their lordships?—No; I have no means of knowing, because I had nothing to do with that election.

You have nothing but belief upon the subject?—Nothing but what I have heard upon that subject.

Were you acquainted with the treating on that election?—I was not concerned with that election.

Did you observe the treating?—There would be treating at that as at other elections.

Did you observe it?—I cannot say that I observed it, for I took very little interest in that election.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Charles Henry Webb, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a solicitor?—I am. *C. H. Webb.*

Do you live at Stafford?—Close to Stafford, Fourbridge.

C. H. Webb.

28 June 1836.

Is that near Stafford?—Close; within the new borough.

Did you take any part in the election of 1832 for the borough of Stafford?—I proposed one of the candidates.

Which of them?—Mr. Blount.

Had Mr. Blount a committee?—Why he had a committee-room.

Did you attend there?—No.

Were you ever there?—I might have been in it several times.

Do you know a person of the name of William Meeson?—Yes.

Do you also know John Meeson?—Yes.

Did William Meeson apply to you during the election?—Yes.

For what?—It was on the morning of the polling.

After the polling had commenced?—Yes.

How soon after?—About perhaps an hour, or an hour and a half.

What did he apply to you for?—He asked me for some money.

How much?—He did not say.

Did he tell you what he wanted it for?—No.

Did he say nothing upon the subject of paying voters?—He said he must have money; he must do the same that the others did; I believe that was the expression.

And have money?—Yes.

Did you understand what the money was for?—I pretty well guessed what it was for.

What did you understand it to be for?—I supposed that it was for paying voters.

Did you comply with his request?—Yes.

To what extent?—I gave him a cheque for 500 *l.*

Was he alone at that time?—I believe he was; he came to me in the polling-court.

Were you attending the polling then?—I was merely an observer.

Did you give the cheque on your own account to the bank?—I did.

Did you give him any further sum during the election?—I gave 1,300 *l.* on the whole.

To whom did you give it?—I believe I gave two of the cheques to William Meeson and one to John; but I cannot say whether the one to John was 500 *l.* or 300 *l.*

It was either 1,000 *l.* or 300 *l.*?—It was in three cheques.

Was it all given for the same purpose?—I suppose it was.

Did you tell Mr. Blount of this?—Not till after the election.

Did you tell him then?—I told him, I think, about two or three days afterwards.

Did he repay you the money?—He did.

Did you canvass the town?—I did; I suppose 150 or 200; I canvassed part of the town with him.

Was your canvass among the common freemen or among the more respectable inhabitants?—I should say generally amongst the respectable part of the people.

When you say respectable, you mean the better sort of tradesmen?—Yes.

People of property?—Yes, I believe they were.

Among that class, did any you canvassed receive money for their votes?—I cannot tell; I never paid any.

What is your belief upon the subject?—I cannot say; I should think not; I do not know; I cannot say at all.

Do you remember having said at that time that you thought that many of the freemen who had been canvassed at that time did receive money for their votes?—Yes, I did say so.

Have you any doubt of the truth of what you said?—I have not.

You have said on a former occasion that many of those persons, worth 100 *l.* a year, took money for their votes?—No, not many.

Several?—Several did; I do not know that they did, but I believe that they did.

Do you know the whole number of the constituency of Stafford at the election of 1832?—No, I cannot say that I do.

Do you remember having said that it amounted to 1,200?—I should suppose about 1,100 or 1,200.

C. H. Webb.

28 June 1836.

On the occasion of that election, how many do you suppose did not take bribes?—I cannot say.

Have you never had any means of forming an opinion upon that subject?—Never.

Did you never state anything upon that point before?—I have given an opinion upon it before.

Give it now. How many do you suppose did not take bribes?—I should think perhaps 200 or 300 out of the whole; I merely give an opinion.

Do you think that there are 200 free from suspicion of corruption?—Yes; I should think more now.

Then?—I should think about that; it is impossible to speak to a number.

How long have you lived in Stafford now?—I should think about nine years.

Have you a competent knowledge of the constituency of Stafford?—No, not very good.

Have you been concerned in previous elections?—Yes; the one before.

Do you know what price was paid for votes at that election of 1832?—No, I do not.

Did you preserve a list of the persons whom you paid, or to whom your 1,300 *l.* was distributed?—No.

Was any list ever given to you from Meeson?—I never saw one.

Meeson kept no book, did he?—No; he never showed any to me.

Did you know from Meeson how he appropriated that money?—Never.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whitmore.

What time was it when Meeson came to you to ask you for money on the Monday morning?—I should think it was about two hours after the polling.

Had you been asked for money before?—No.

By no one?—By no one.

You do not know of any money having been given before?—No.

Did you promise any before?—No.

You canvassed 150 or 200?—Yes, about that.

And they gave their promises without any promise of money?—They never asked for any.

You have given a guess as to the number who were not bribed; do you make that calculation with reference to the polling of 1832, and only that?—No; I ground my opinion upon the election of 1831.

That only?—That only.

At the present moment, you say you think that there is a larger number who would not be bribed?—No doubt of it.

A very much larger?—Yes, I should think there is.

You say, from your knowledge of the constituency, you think 300?—I can only take it from the register.

You know nothing of their previous habits?—I knew pretty well their previous habits in 1831.

When you make this statement of 300 that were free, what do you make this calculation from; you say you have little knowledge of it?—I ground my opinion upon report and upon the election of 1831, Sir John Campbell's.

Have you any acquaintance with the political feelings of the people of Stafford?—A little.

In their choice of a candidate would they be guided by that, do you think?—Yes, in some measure.

Do you think that a candidate of one particular party would stand an equal chance with the candidate of another?—No; I do not think they would.

Do you think if a candidate of the unpopular party presented himself at Stafford with money they would return him?—I think it would be a very great doubt now.

Re-examined by Mr. Rushton.

You say that there are a very much larger number than in 1832 who cannot be corrupted now?—I think so; it is a matter of opinion.

How much larger?—It is quite a matter of opinion; but it would depend in a great measure on the politics of the party, for one thing. I do not think they would take a small bribe from any party.

C. H. Webb.

28 June 1836.

What do you think of their taking a large bribe; do you think they would take a large bribe from any party?—It is a great temptation to a poor man to get a large bribe.

Do you think that they would take a large bribe?—I cannot say; perhaps many of them would, and many of them would not.

Supposing parties of different political principles to come to Stafford to solicit their votes, and one gave money and the other did not, which would be returned?—It would depend upon his politics.

Entirely?—Yes, I think it would.

Money would have no effect in securing the return now?—I do not think it would.

How do you account for that rapid change in the constituency?—I account for it in this way, in some measure in regard to the last election, and from common report in the town.

Do you attribute it to the Parliamentary proceedings respecting the borough?—No, I do not; the place is increasing with regard to the 10*l.* householders.

How many more 10*l.* householders are there than there were before?—I cannot say; I should think there are 70, from that to 100 more.

Then is your opinion formed upon that increase alone?—No; not that increase alone.

It does not depend, you have told me, upon the proceedings as to the disfranchisement of the borough?—No.

To what other cause do you attribute it?—They have political opinions, and many of them have changed from Whig to Tory, I believe.

Do you attribute it solely to that?—All combined together, I do.

Then you think a Whig, going to Stafford with a large sum of money, would have no chance of being returned against a Tory who took none?—I am positive of it.

And that you are prepared to swear?—Yes.

How did you vote at the last election?—Not at all.

By a Lord.] Have you any doubt, if Parliament passed very stringent laws for the punishment of bribery, and that the Stafford electors being aware that any act of bribery must also void the election, that elections would be carried on in future in Stafford with the same purity as in other country towns in England?—I think they would.

But that if people will come down and offer large sums of money, that it is a temptation which in no town the poor are able to resist?—I think so.

Do you think that a man coming down with a large sum of money would carry the election?—It would have a very great influence.

You have changed your opinion, have you not; you stated just now that it would not have any influence?—I said just now that it would not with a small temptation.

Then a large temptation would do?—It is a great temptation to poor men, and many would take it.

Then you think a large temptation would bring in a Whig member against a Tory?—No, I think not.

You have said twice both ways; which is your real opinion?—My real opinion is, that if a Whig candidate and a Conservative candidate came to Stafford, and the Whig candidate was to give money, I do not think that he would be returned at the present day.

Then no sum of money given by a Whig would bring him in against a Tory who gave none?—No, I do not think it would.

What do you mean by saying a large sum would influence?—It would influence a certain party, but not over the majority; that is what I mean.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till Thursday next, at three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Jovis, 30° Junii 1836.

THE order of the day being read for the further consideration and Second Reading of the Bill, intituled, "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their petition;

Counsel were called in.

William Meeson was again called in; and having been sworn, was further Examined as follows:

William Meeson.

30 June 1836.

Mr. *Austin.*] YOU have already told us you are a shoemaker at Stafford?—I am.

How many men do you employ there?—Two hundred, or better.

Were you engaged in the election of 1832?—I was.

What was the order in which the candidates made their appearance at Stafford in 1832; who came first?—I cannot say.

Captain Chetwynd; did he?—I believe he did.

And who next?—Mr. Blunt and Captain Gronow.

Was Captain Gronow or Mr. Blunt what you call the third man at Stafford?—Captain Gronow, I believe.

The term "third man" is well known at Stafford, is it not?—It is.

He is generally a popular candidate, is he not?—He is generally supported.

I do not mean popular in politics but popular amongst the burgesses, is he not?—Yes.

Were you engaged in conducting the election for Mr. Blunt?—I was.

Was there a committee for Mr. Blunt?—I cannot say whether there was or not, but I believe there was.

That is to say, there were persons acting as a committee?—A few friends.

You avoid the name of committee, do you not, in Stafford?—I do not think that we do.

Where did those friends meet?—At the Swan.

Was business done on account of the election at any other public house besides the Swan?—Not that I know of.

Was it at the Oak?—Yes, at the Oak.

The head committee sat at the Swan?—They did.

Do you remember on what day of the week the first polling day was?—I believe Monday.

What day of the month?—I cannot say.

Was Monday the tenth of December?—I cannot speak to the date.

Had you a meeting of the committee on the evening of the ninth?—We had.

Was Mr. Blunt there, do you know?—He was.

Was Mr. Batty at that committee meeting?—I believe he was.

Who else was at the meeting of that committee, was Mr. Barnett Wood?—I believe he was.

Was John Crutchley?—I believe he was.

Can you recollect anybody else?—I cannot.

Was your brother there, Mr. John Meeson?—He was not.

Did you come to any understanding at the meeting about expending money upon the election?—It was agreed that we should not expend any money.

Just recollect; you mean that it was distinctly agreed that no money should be spent then?—It was, upon the Sunday evening.

Was any money spent upon the Monday morning?—There was.

How early?—I cannot exactly speak to the time, but it was after I had been in court to poll myself.

Was it within half an hour of the poll opening?—Yes.

You have given evidence upon this subject before the House of Commons?—I have.

William Meeson.

30 June 1836.

Was it within half an hour or an hour?—I think it was more than an hour, but I cannot speak accurately.

In what way was the money then spent?—I believe in paying the burgesses for their votes.

At the Oak?—At the Oak, I believe.

Had you previously distributed tickets among the voters?—I did.

When?—Three weeks or a month previous, I think, that tickets were paid twice; two 5*s*.

To how many voters did you distribute the tickets three weeks or a month before the election?—About 800.

What was the price of each ticket?—Five shillings.

When did you make the second distribution of tickets?—It might be a week before the election.

Did you distribute them as extensively as the first time?—Yes.

Was that done on the part of Mr. Blunt?—Yes.

Had you made any arrangement with Mr. Blunt to that effect?—I believe he gave me the money to pay it with.

How soon before the election?—The last was a week or a fortnight before, but I cannot say the date.

Did he give you the money before the distribution was made?—He did.

At the time he gave you the money did he know for what purpose it was to be applied?—Yes.

Then do I understand that after that you came to some arrangement at the committee about not spending money at the election?—We did.

When you mentioned that, you did not allude to those tickets, but you meant further money?—Yes.

Did you know where the money came from that was distributed upon the first day of the election?—Mr. Webb.

Did you receive any yourself?—I did.

How much?—Eight hundred pounds.

From whom?—Mr. Webb.

The banker?—No; Mr. Charles Webb, the attorney.

How early in the morning did you receive that 800 *l*.—I received it at twice, 500*l*. and 300*l*.; but he gave my brother 500*l*. previously.

Do you know at what time he gave your brother 500*l*.?—I think it was near twelve in the morning.

When did he give you the 500*l*.?—About three in the afternoon.

And the 300*l*.?—Towards five o'clock.

How came Mr. Webb to advance you the money?—I cannot say what motive he had.

Did you apply to him?—I applied to him.

Ar what time in the morning did you apply to him?—About half-past eleven o'clock, I think.

At what time did the poll open that morning?—About half-past nine.

What was your motive for applying to Mr. Webb for the money?—When I went in court to poll myself I saw several of the burgesses that had promised Mr. Blunt, voting for Captain Gronow; I was then aware that there must be something wrong, and I made inquiry; I found that the report was that Captain Gronow was paying the burgesses for voting, and I called Mr. Webb out of court and told him the consequence.

What did you say?—I told him that Captain Gronow was paying the burgesses, and if we did not do the same we should have no chance of the election.

How came you to apply to Mr. Charles Webb?—Being a friend of Mr. Blunt.

Had he been at the committee on Sunday evening?—I do not recollect.

Was he ever at the committee at the Swan Inn?—I cannot recollect; I do not think he was.

But you knew he was a friend of Mr. Blunt's?—I did.

What did he say?—He said he had no orders from Mr. Blunt to part with any money, and he had no wish to do it; I said it was of no use my going on with the election unless I had money, and he then gave me a check for 500*l*.; at least he gave it to my brother in my presence; that was the first 500*l*.

Upon whom was that check drawn?—Upon Webb's bank at Stafford; I went with him to the bank.

Did you see the money paid?—Yes.

William Meeson.

30 June 1836.

Who went to the bank?—Charles Webb and myself and my brother.

And you saw your brother receive the money?—Yes.

And you yourself received the other sums?—Yes.

What did you do with the other sums yourself?—Sent them down to my brother at the Oak.

Was your brother stationed at the Oak?—Yes.

How early in the day?—Not till after he had received the first money in the morning.

Was he there after the receipt of the money?—He was there after the receipt of the money.

By whose instructions?—By mine.

Was anybody sent so the Oak besides your brother?—Mr. John Crutchley was there part of the time, and Peter Batty and William Barnett Wood.

Do you know that the other men were there; did you give them orders to go to the Oak?—I did not.

What were the instructions you gave to your brother?—I told him that for the burgesses that polled there would be an order come out of court, and he was to pay them 2*l.* 10*s.* and 3*l.* according to the way they voted; I think it was 2*l.* 10*s.* for a single vote, and 5*l.* for a plumper; there was an order to come out of court as soon as the men had polled, to say who they had polled for.

Are those orders called by any particular name?—They are not.

Are they not called checks?—I have heard them called checks.

You saw some of the checks yourself?—I cannot say that I did.

Did you not produce some of them before the House of Commons?—Not that I am aware of; if I did I have forgotten it.

You say you ordered him to pay 2*l.* 10*s.* for single votes, and, I think, 5*l.* for plumpers; what did you say about 3*l.*?—Afterwards we paid 3*l.* for split votes.

How long after did you pay that?—I think some time in the afternoon.

Why did you pay 3*l.*?—We understood the other party was paying more.

Did you understand that they were paying 3*l.*?—Yes.

Then you raised your price to what you understood they were paying?—Yes.

Did you subsequently raise your price at all?—We did, to 4*l.*

For the same reasons?—Yes.

Did you rise above 4*l.*?—I believe not.

Did you not get to 9*l.*?—For a plumper we did.

And I believe as high as 10*l.*?—It might have been in an instance or two.

But 9*l.* was the highest average?—It was 9*l.* in general.

That was all on the first day?—It was.

Did you raise each time for the same reason that you had raised the first time?—We did.

Were you at the Oak at all?—I was.

When you were there your brother was there?—I think he was.

Was Wood there at the time, or Crutchley or Batty?—I believe they were.

Where was your brother in the Oak?—There is a large room at the top of the yard.

Did you see any men going into the room?—I did.

Voters?—Yes.

How many at a time?—Twenty or thirty in the yard at a time.

How many did you see go into the room at a time?—They all went into the room that I saw go up the yard.

How long were you at the room?—I never was in the room that I recollect, but I was in the yard. I was not there more than five or ten minutes at a time.

You did not see your brother paying the men?—No.

Are you sure of that?—I am.

Did you see anybody paying?—I believe not.

But you are not certain?—I am certain I did not.

Did you see any checks delivered?—I saw the men with checks in the street.

Not in the yard of the Oak, but in the street?—In the street, taking them to the Hall.

Did they carry them in their hands?—Yes.

Openly?—Yes.

And you knew what they were?—I did; at least I suspected what they were.

Was it known in the town what they were?—I believe it was.

William Meeson.

30 June 1836.

And I understand you to say that they went openly from the hall to the Oak?—They did.

Did your brother render you an account of the money expended at the Oak?—He did.

Did he show you the checks at the time he rendered you the account?—No; I do not recollect seeing the checks.

Do you know whether he had the checks in his possession?—I believe he had.

Were they his vouchers?—I do not know whether he considered them his vouchers or not.

Did you interfere with that part of the management, or did he manage that himself?—He managed that himself.

Did you canvass at all?—Sometimes I did.

Did you make any bargain with the voters yourself?—Not on the canvass.

Did you afterwards?—Yes.

How many persons might you have bargained with for their votes?—I cannot say.

About how many?—One hundred, I should think.

Was that in the course of Monday?—It was during Monday.

After eleven o'clock or half past eleven, and until the poll closed?—Yes.

Were there other persons engaged in that occupation for Mr. Blunt?—There were.

Do you know who they were?—Peter Batty was one; I do not recollect seeing any others in the market-place.

Were others engaged in that occupation elsewhere?—Not that I am aware of.

Did you purchase the votes in the market-place?—I did.

You and Peter Batty?—Yes.

Did you purchase all the hundred there?—Yes.

How did you purchase them, was it privately or openly?—Openly.

Did you purchase them openly, designedly, or was it only an accident?—Designedly.

With what design?—To win the election, if I could.

What was the reason for your purchasing the votes openly rather than secretly?—The reason was that the other party were doing the same thing.

Was it in order that the price might be known?—Certainly.

That the state of the market might be known?—Yes.

Did any voters ask of you more for their votes than you were inclined to give?—Yes, some of them.

How much might they have asked?—That was the time when we were giving 3*l.*, and they wanted 4*l.* then.

Did you refuse it?—No; I gave it to them.

Did any voters make any application to you for more money than you consented to give?—I believe they did.

Was that on the first day?—On the first day.

Did they say anything to you at the time?—That they could get more from the other party.

Do you happen to know how any of those voters voted?—I do not.

Or whether they voted?—Or whether they voted at all I cannot say.

Just recollect yourself; that question was put to you in the House of Commons, how was that?—It is so long since I cannot recollect. I tell you the truth, as far as I can recollect.

You said that you applied to Mr. Webb in consequence of persons who had promised Mr. Blunt voting for Captain Gronow; what was the state of the poll at eleven o'clock or half past eleven? When you made that application was Captain Gronow above Mr. Blunt or below him?—I believe he was above him.

Considerably above him?—Perhaps ten or fifteen; I cannot say.

Did he keep above him the whole day?—Yes, he did.

You recollect the relative positions of the two candidates at the close of the first day?—I do not.

Do you recollect whether Mr. Blunt gained upon Captain Gronow in the course of the day?—I heard it reported that he did.

You say that you yourself raised the prices that you offered in the course of the day; did you upon that occasion send any message to your brother at the Oak?—Yes.

What

William Meeson.

30 June 1836.

What message did you send?—I sent him word that the other party were giving more, and that he must give a certain sum, whatever the sum might be, that the other party were giving.

You say that your brother accounted to you at the close of the election. Did he produce any paper to you?—He produced a book.

Was that a list of names?—A list of names.

Did you produce that list before the House of Commons?—I did not the original book, but a copy from it.

Did you make the copy yourself?—I did.

Was it an accurate copy?—It was.

Did you deliver it in to the Committee of the House of Commons?—I did.

You have not had it back since?—No, I have not.

[Mr. *Austin* stated, that the book which had been delivered in by the witness having been destroyed in the fire of the Houses of Parliament, could not now be produced, but that he should be prepared to show to-morrow by the evidence of some of the officers of the House of Commons, the course taken with respect to the minutes of evidence; after which he trusted that their lordships would allow the printed copy to be received as evidence.]

Do you remember the names of the parties who were in that list?—I do not; it is impossible for me to say.

Do you remember any of them?—I cannot.

How much money did your brother have altogether?—One thousand three hundred pounds.

Did he account to you for the expenditure of 1,300*l.*?—He did.

Did he do that at the time that he gave you the list?—He did.

Do you know what became of the original list?—I do not.

Where did you copy it?—I copied it at home, at Stafford, in my own house.

Was the original list given to you there?—It was.

What became of that original list after it came into your possession?—I cannot say what has became of it.

Have you been able to find it since?—I have not.

By a Lord.] Have you searched for it?—I have.

In every place in which it was likely to be?—I have.

Mr. *Austin.*] And the copy you delivered to the Committee of the House of Commons?—I did.

I forget whether I asked you whether you delivered a copy of that list to Mr. Blunt?—I did.

Was it a copy of that list or a copy from your copy?—A copy from the original.

A duplicate copy?—Yes.

At what time did you deliver it to Mr. Blunt?—It might be a month after the election, as near as I can recollect.

Upon what occasion?—He wrote to me for it,—for a copy of the names.

By whom were you introduced to Mr. Blunt?—By Mr. Bostock.

When?—Two or three months before the election, I should imagine.

Who was Mr. Webb?—Mr. Charles Webb, of Stafford, the attorney.

In what character were you introduced to Mr. Blunt?—He solicited me first to vote for him, and I took an active part after in his election.

How soon did you begin to take part in his election?—I suppose it was a month or six weeks before the election commenced.

Was the bribery oath adminstered at that election?—Not that I am aware of.

Do you know whether it was or was not?—I cannot say.

Do you remember the question of putting the bribery oath being discussed?—No, I do not.

Do you remember any proposition of that kind?—I do not.

You say that you made bargains with a hundred voters yourself; did you hear other persons making bargains with voters?—I did.

How many?—I cannot say.

Many or few?—I should think three or four.

By a Lord.] Do you mean voters in the same interest?—Not in the same interest.

Was there any other besides yourself making bargains for votes in Mr. Blunt's interest?—Mr. Peter Batty.

Did they make bargains for votes in the other interest in your presence?—Yes.

William Meeson.

30 June 1836.

For whom were those bargains made?—I saw Mr. Painter making bargains for Captain Gronow.

And who else?—I saw Mr. Bostock.

For whom was he making bargains?—Captain Gronow.

Did you see or hear anybody making bargains for the third candidate?—I do not think I ever did.

Do you know Mr. Nixon?—I do not.

Of those persons that you made bargains with, do you recollect whether any were householders, or were they all freemen?—I believe they were all freemen.

Were there no householders?—I cannot exactly say; if there were, they were very few.

Do you know what proportion the 10 *l.* householders bore upon the register in reference to the freemen?—I do not.

Have you looked at the register?—I have not.

You were asked a question in the House of Commons upon that subject?—I do not recollect it.

You cannot give their lordships information upon that?—I cannot.

Could you do so if you were to examine the register or the poll?—Very likely I might be able to do so.

Did you observe whether the public-houses were open in the town at that election?—They were.

Were the voters there?—Yes.

Do you know whether they were supplied with drink by Mr. Blunt?—They were.

Was there drunkenness about the streets?—Yes, there was, to a little extent, but not much.

Was it to the same or to a greater or less extent than at former elections?—Much the same as at former elections; not so bad as some.

Did you go into the public-houses?—Into some of them.

Were there many persons in them?—Yes.

Drinking?—Yes.

Whose voters were they?—I cannot say whom they voted for. I suppose there were some of all parties among them.

Were the houses full?—Some were, and some were not.

How long have you been acquainted with the town of Stafford?—Ever since I was born.

And with the elections?—I cannot say how long I have been acquainted with elections.

For some time past?—Yes.

From your knowledge of the borough, do you believe that Captain Gronow could have succeeded at that election without resorting to the means that he used?—I believe not.

Or Captain Chetwynd?—I am sure I cannot say; I think he might.

He might with those candidates, do you mean?—Yes.

Upon what grounds do you say you think he might?—Captain Chetwynd was very popular in the town upon that occasion, being a neighbour.

He was at the head of the poll, was he not?—I believe that he was.

You mentioned a Mr. Painter in your evidence; is Mr. Painter living or dead?—He is dead,

When did he die?—About two months ago.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

You said, in answer to a question from my learned friend, that you believed Captain Gronow would not have succeeded without the means he used; do you believe that now, if he were to come to Stafford with a boat-load of sovereigns, that he would come in?—I do not believe that he would.

At this time have they strong political opinions in the borough of Stafford?—They have.

Have they a strong political feeling against the party to which Captain Gronow at that time belonged?—They have.

When you first went round with Mr. Blunt, if I rightly understood you, there was no offer made of any money?—None whatever.

Did any person at that time apply to you for any money?—None, that I recollect.

Was

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Was any money offered or paid on behalf of Mr. Blunt till the poll was going on about a couple of hours?—None whatever.

You said that it was the determination of Mr. Blunt's friends that no money should be paid at the election?—It was.

Was it in consequence of the practices that Captain Gronow had resorted to, that some of Mr. Blunt's friends thought it necessary to resort to the same expedient?—It was.

Do not you know, that, even at that election, there were a great many persons that might have had money, and refused it?—I believe there were some.

I mean even of the burgesses?—Some burgesses too; I offered some myself, and it was refused.

How many can you speak to yourself?—I cannot say how many.

But a considerable number?—Yes.

Were there not upwards of three hundred persons that voted for Mr. Blunt before any money was paid at all?—I cannot say the number.

Was there not a very considerable number?—There were a good many voted before any money was paid; but the number I cannot say.

Have you sufficient recollection, upon looking over the poll afterwards, you could state whether that number did not vote for Mr. Blunt without any money being paid at all?—Very likely it might.

Do you know whether at present the 10 *l.* householders are much larger in number than they were in 1832?—I cannot say.

Do not you remember that you actually offered large sums to several persons, and that those sums were refused?—Yes, they were.

How large a sum?—I think I offered some from 15 *l.* to 20 *l.*

What was the answer you got?—That they had promised Captain Gronow, and would not retract.

Do you remember whether there were some that were offered money to vote for Mr. Blunt who refused it, and actually did vote for him, and received nothing?—That I cannot say.

Do you remember a man of the name of Nevitt?—I do; there are several Nevitts in Stafford.

Do you remember offering him a sum of money, which he refused?—I cannot exactly recollect it.

Have you continued to reside in Stafford since 1832?—I have.

Is it your opinion, or not, that the constituency has improved since that time?—I believe it has.

Were you present at the election in 1835?—I was.

You say you gave some checks; were they anything more than lists of names?—Merely lists of names.

Do you believe that there were any checks that the voters themselves carried in their hands?—Not the voters themselves.

You said that they carried them openly in their hands, and it was understood that you meant to say that the voters carried their own checks in their hands?—Then I mistook the question.

There were general lists of names that were forwarded to your brother, by which he regulated the transactions?—Yes; men employed to take them from the hall; not the burgesses themselves.

Nor did they accompany the person that had the list, but they came to the Oak yard, and then there was a list given to your brother, by which he regulated his payments?—It was so.

Had you those lists?—I had not.

Had you ever those lists?—I cannot say whether I had or not; but I believe I had.

Who made out those lists?—The check clerks in the hall.

Who were the check clerks?—There was a person named Caithness was one.

Was he a check clerk for Mr. Blunt?—Yes.

Do you know who was the poll clerk for Mr. Blunt?—I do not.

Were those lists all in the same handwriting?—I cannot recollect.

How many of those lists were there?—I cannot remember.

Do you think there were half-a-dozen?—I think more than that.

Were you only at the Oak once?—Yes, I think I was there more than once; but I cannot speak positively.

You say you were not in the house during the time the polling was going on?—Not in the room, only in the yard.

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Were you in the yard more than once?—I believe I was.

For how long each time?—A very few minutes.

You never went into the room at all?—I did not.

Is your brother here?—I have not seen him.

Is Mr. Blunt here?—I believe he is.

Were there any arrangements at all made before the time of the polling began that any money should be given to the voters?—None whatever.

Do you know that it was equally the wish of Mr. Blunt and of Mr. Blunt's friends that no such practice should be resorted to?—I do.

Was the canvass completed before that time?—It was.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

How many had promised upon the canvass?—I cannot say.

About how many?—I have no idea how many had promised.

Have you forgotten that?—I have.

Can you recollect whether it was as many, or more, that voted for Mr. Blunt?—If I recollect right, upon the Sunday night Mr. Blunt and I looked over the canvass books, and we made sure that we should have 300 votes without paying a single man.

Did you get 300 votes without paying a single man?—I cannot say; I do not recollect how many were paid nor how many voted for Mr. Blunt exactly.

Try and recollect; that question was put to you before the House of Commons, and you answered it?—I cannot recollect.

Have you forgotten the facts as to how many voted without payment, and how many voted with payment?—I cannot.

Have you entirely forgotten that?—I have; I do not recollect how many votes Mr. Blunt had.

Mr. Blunt had 476 votes; now of the 476 votes that Mr. Blunt had, can you tell their lordships how many of those received money?—I should think more than 200.

Was that the answer you gave to that question upon a former occasion?—I cannot say.

Can you answer it without seeing your list?—Not positively.

Can you, if a list is produced to you?—I could.

You have told my learned friend that you did not resort to giving money for Mr. Blunt till you found that money was giving by other candidates; do you mean to say that the two sets of 5*s.* tickets had not been distributed till that time?—Certainly, I admitted the 5*s.* tickets that were distributed some time before the election.

And before you knew that the other party were giving money?—Yes.

For what purpose were they distributed?—To give to the burgesses for their wives and themselves.

To how many did you give them?—To 800, I believe.

What was the total number of voters upon the register?—I cannot say.

Do you know what proportion of the 800 were at the poll?—I cannot say.

You have said that there were some that might have had money, and who refused it; how do you know that?—I offered some myself.

How many?—I cannot say the exact number.

About how many?—There might be ten or twenty.

Were there more than ten or twenty?—No, I think not.

By a Lord.] Did they give you any reason for not taking it?—They said they had promised the other party, and would not retract from their word.

Mr. *Austin*] Did they say why they had promised the other party?—They did not.

Were those the persons to whom you offered the 15*l.* or 20*l.*?—They were.

To how many persons did you offer 15*l.* or 20*l.*?—I cannot say.

At what time of the day did you make the offer?—In the afternoon of Monday, at three or four o'clock.

You have told us that 10*l.* were given on two occasions?—Two or three occasions.

Was that the highest sum taken?—I believe it was.

Then how came you to offer those sums of 15*l.* or 20*l.*?—I wanted to win the election if we could.

Do you know whether those persons had promised?—I cannot say.

You said that some persons refused to take money because they had promised the

the other candidates; did any of the parties who had promised the other candidates vote for Mr. Blunt?—That I cannot say.

Do you recollect the answer you gave to that question before the House of Commons?—I do not.

Do you remember the question being put to you?—I do not.

Was Mr. Blunt present during the time of the money being given?—He was not.

Is he acquainted with the mode of giving money?—Not that I am aware of.

Had you any conversation with him about that?—I had not.

Or about giving the money at all?—I had not.

Were those checks made out by the check clerks?—They were, I believe.

For Mr. Blunt?—Yes.

And by nobody else?—None that I am aware of.

Were you in the poll booths when the lists were made out?—No.

Did you give any instructions about it?—I did not.

Who was the party whom you met in the street with checks in his hand or in their hands?—I cannot recollect their names.

How many of them?—There were three or four employed.

Then it was not the voters that had the checks in their hands, but the persons conducting them?—Yes.

Was that a person appointed by you?—No.

By whom was he appointed?—I do not know.

How many votes might be with each of those persons?—Six or seven were with some, and some ten.

Did you see more than one check in their hands at a time?—Only one check.

What is your brother at Stafford?—An innkeeper at the present time.

By a Lord.] Who is Mr. Blunt; is he a gentleman of the neighbourhood?—I believe not.

He is a stranger to the town of Stafford?—He is.

You say you employ 200 journeymen; what wages do they earn?—They will average from 25*s.* to 2*l.* a week.

Has that been the case for any length of time, or have the wages lately been increased?—They have lately been increased.

What were they in the year 1832?—A man could not earn so much by 3*s.* a week as he can now.

Is Mr. Blunt the agent for Lord Stafford?—I believe he is; he has been at Stafford three or four times collecting his rents.

The tickets you have spoken of, of which you delivered 800, were they delivered to 800 different people, or 800 tickets delivered altogether?—They called them tickets; but it was given in money.

To different people?—To different people.

You mean that 800 different people took the tickets?—Yes.

Some women?—Some women and young burgesses not sworn; we made no distinction if they were sons of freemen.

Did you confine it to freemen and freemen's wives?—We did.

That was all in contemplation of the election?—No doubt of it.

Did you know at the time when they were given for whom they would vote?—I did not.

They were given indiscriminately?—They were.

You were known to be Mr. Blunt's agent?—I was not an agent; merely a friend.

You were known to be Mr. Blunt's friend?—Yes.

Are they all called friends; is there no agent?—Not that I am aware of.

You said that your men get 2*l.* a week; were those some of the persons that took the bribes?—Yes.

Do you know any masters that took bribes?—Not that I am aware of.

But the men that were earning 2*l.* a week took it readily?—Yes; they were not earning so much then.

What were they earning, upon an average, in the year 1832?—Taking the class round, good workmen and bad, I suppose they would average from 1l. to 1*l.* 2*s.* a week.

That is the class of persons among whom those bribes were principally distributed?—The same.

You say some of the burgesses were not paid that voted for Mr. Blunt, but

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some householders that voted for Mr. Blunt were paid. Did not you pay some yourself?—I did not.

Did not you state that you paid some yourself?—I believe not.

Did not some ask you for money to vote for Mr. Blunt?—I cannot recollect it.

They may have done it without your recollecting it?—They may have done so.

You ceased paying after the first day?—I did.

Were not there some complaints of persons of nothing paid?—Some complaints of nothing being paid.

These check clerks who made out the checks, were they to check the poll, or merely to make out the checks?—To make out the checks that the men were paid by.

When were they appointed?—I cannot say.

Were they in the booths?—They were.

Do you know who they were?—One man was named Caithness.

His business was to make out the checks?—It was.

Was that settled by the committee before the election?—I cannot say.

Can you say when they were appointed?—They must have been appointed on the Monday morning.

Before the poll began, or after?—After the poll began, because we had no money to pay with till after I had polled myself.

You have been asked whether there is not a very strong political feeling in Stafford at present existing; is there?—There is.

On which side of the question?—On the Tory side.

Who are the members at present?—Captain Chetwynd; there is only one member.

He was at the head of the poll?—He was.

Is he a Tory?—I believe not.

Who was at the head of the poll in 1835?—Sir Francis Goodricke.

Were his politics declared?—I believe they were.

Was it upon the ground of his being a Tory that he came in at the head of the poll?—I believe it was that, and having the influence of Mr. Gifford.

And the influence of the 5*s.* tickets that were distributed, and the opening of the houses, had nothing to do with it?—It had a little to do with it.

Which had the most, the treating or the Toryism?—I cannot say.

At the last election, Captain Gronow was a Whig, was not he?—Yes, he was.

He bribed, did he not?—He did.

But he was unsuccessful?—He was unsuccessful.

How much difference do you think the politics of a man make in the price of a vote?—I cannot say, I am sure.

Mr. *Austin, by permission of the Lords.*] Did you pay money on the second day in 1832?—I did not.

Was money paid on the second day, to your knowledge, for Mr. Blunt?—I believe not.

Did he withdraw from the poll on the second day?—No; I think he polled as long as a man came to poll.

Did your committee meet on the Monday evening?—I cannot exactly recollect that.

Were not you asked about this in the House of Commons?—I cannot recollect.

Was there any meeting of Mr. Blunt's friends on Monday evening?—I believe there was, but I cannot exactly say.

Did you come to the determination, or not, as to going on with the payment on the Tuesday morning?—We had made up our minds not to give any more money after the Monday night.

Mr. Blunt's poll flagged on the Tuesday, did it not?—I am sure I cannot say; there were very few more to poll.

By a Lord.] You considered the election determined by the polling on the Monday?—I did.

Mr. *Whateley.*] But in fact, certain persons did vote for Mr. Blunt on the Tuesday?—Yes they did.

Without receiving anything?—Yes, without being paid or being promised a farthing.

By a Lord.] Did not some of those who voted on the Tuesday, complain of not being paid?—They knew before they went up to poll they were not to receive anything; that was made public.

Did

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Did not they nevertheless complain?—Some of the voters on the Monday did; but I think none that polled on the Tuesday.

You considered the election over on the Monday?—I did. It was the men that voted on the Monday that complained they had not the money. On the Tuesday they knew they were not to receive any thing.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

John Meeson.

Then *John Meeson* was called; and the following Certificate was delivered in and read:

"I beg leave to certify that J. Meeson, innkeeper of Stafford, is at the present and has been for some time past troubled with a bowel complaint, which renders him quite unfit for travelling. Being his usual medical attendant, I consider that any extraordinary mental agitation, combined with extra exertion, might in his present state, and in a person of his constitution, be productive not only of troublesome, but ultimately serious consequences.

(signed) "*H. Fowke*, Surgeon.

"Stafford, 29th June 1836.

"To Mr. John William Birch,
House of Lords."

John Oldrini.

Then *John Oldrini* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a door-keeper of the House of Lords?—I am.

Who gave you this letter?—I do not know the person's name; but he is here.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

John Smith.

Then *John Smith* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Rushton.*] WHAT are you?—A spirit dealer.

Where do you live?—At Stafford.

Did you give this letter to the door-keeper of the House of Lords?—Yes.

Where did you get it?—From Mrs. Meeson, last night.

Is she the wife of John Meeson?—She is.

Are you acquainted with the person who signed it?—I am.

What is he?—A surgeon.

Do you know his hand-writing?—Not to swear to it, I do not.

When did you see Mr. John Meeson last?—I have not seen Mr. Meeson these three days; he was not at home yesterday all day.

Do you know where he was?—I believe he was in the country.

Where?—He has a farm a short distance from Stafford, and I believe he has been persuaded to go there for the benefit of his health in the day-time.

How long ago was he persuaded to go?—Some time ago, as I understood from Mrs. Meeson.

How long do you say?—A month I should think.

Was this note sealed when it came to your possession?—It was; I received it sealed from Mrs. Meeson's hand.

How did that note get into the inside of it; that is a private note addressed to you?—By carrying it in my pocket, it has got into the letter.

Mr. Meeson was at the farm?—Yes, he was.

Within what time have you seen him in Stafford?—He comes home every night.

You got this letter last night?—I did, before I started by the coach.

At what time?—Before five o'clock, I suppose.

Had he arrived then?—No.

Mrs. Meeson gave you this letter?—Yes.

Was the surgeon present?—No, no one but Mrs. Meeson.

By a Lord.] What distance is his house in the country?—It is a very high situation, about a mile and a half off.

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How does he go in the morning?—On horseback mostly, I believe; generally, I should say, he is a very weak person.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Does he walk occasionally?—Sometimes he does.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *Rushton* prayed, That their Lordships would be pleased to make a peremptory order for the attendance of Mr. Meeson, his evidence being considered indispensable.

The Counsel were informed, That the house would make the necessary order.

John Henson Webb, Esq. was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

J. H. Webb, Esq.

Mr. *Rushton.*] YOU are a banker at Stafford?—Yes.

Did Mr. Blunt, the candidate for the representation of Stafford, keep an account with your bank in the year 1832?—Yes.

When did he begin to keep money with your house?—The 4th of December 1832.

What amount was paid in on that day?—There is a receipt of 400*l.*

Does any other payment occur about that period?—There is a payment on the same day of 50*l.*

Any other?—Twenty pounds.

What is the date of the 20*l.*?—The same day, the 4th.

Was there any other sum paid in between that and the 12th?—On the 5th of December.

How much on the 5th?—Four hundred and fifty-five pounds, nine shillings and nine pence, and 140*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*

Is there any other entry to the credit of the account between the 5th of December and the 12th?—There is the 11th, 400*l.*

Did any thing occur to the credit of the account about the same period?—The 18th of January 1833 is the next, 1,661*l.*

Did Mr. Blunt keep any account with you before that period?—No.

Did you pay out any money to the order of Mr. Blunt between the time of the first payment and the last?—On the 7th of December 40*l.* was paid.

To whom was that paid?—To Hawkins.

Do you know Hawkins?—I do not know him.

Have you an account of a payment to William Meeson?—The first payment is to Meeson, 50*l.*

When was that?—The 4th of December.

When was the next?—The same date, 20*l.*

Were those checks signed by Mr. Blunt?—Yes.

Was there a third payment to Mr. Meeson?—There was one on the 11th of December.

Was that to William or to John?—It does not state.

What was the amount?—Five hundred pounds; another on the 13th to Meeson, 200*l.*

Is the christian name stated?—It is not stated here.

Was there any further payment to Meeson?—In January 1833 there is one.

Of what date?—The 21st of January.

What was the amount?—One hundred and sixty-four pounds sixteen shillings.

Was that the last payment to either of the Meesons?—I do not see any more.

By whom was the money paid in to the credit of the account?—It is not stated.

Not in any one of the entries?—No.

Meeson's christian name is not mentioned in any one?—No.

Is Mr. Blunt a resident in Stafford?—No.

Does he reside in the neighbourhood?—I believe not.

Do you know whether he is the agent for any nobleman or any gentleman in the neighbourhood?—For Lord Stafford.

Is he also agent for Lord Shrewsbury?—I believe he is.

By a Lord.] What is the whole amount that is paid in?—It is carried on for a length of time.

Cross-

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

What was the amount to the credit of Mr. Blunt on the 11th of December 1832?—Four hundred pounds.

What was the balance in your hands belonging to him at that time?—The balance on the 11th of December to his credit, 600*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

Were there any other sums within the next month paid into Mr. Blunt's account?—The 18th of January 1833, 1,661*l.*

Was that paid in on account of Mr. Blunt, or on the account of Lord Stafford; it might have been on Lord Stafford, might it not?—It might have been.

He is receiver for Lord Stafford, is he not?—Yes.

Was he in the habit of paying in money generally in his own name without specifying to whom it belonged?—Yes; there are no entries of the names.

That might have been received for Lord Stafford, that sum of 1,661*l.*, and might have been paid in the bank in that way?—Yes.

Therefore that account shows nothing as to whether that money belonged to himself, or Lord Stafford, or Lord Shrewsbury?—Exactly; it does not.

By a Lord.] What is the name of your firm?—Stevenson, Salt, Salt & Webb.

Did Captain Gronow keep cash at your house?—We opened no account with him.

Do you remember receiving a letter of credit from Coutts?—Yes.

Have you got that letter of credit here?—Yes, I have.

[*The same was delivered in and read as follows:*]

"R. H. Gronow.

"Sirs, "London, 6th November 1832.

"We beg to acquaint you that we have this day addressed to your house a letter of credit for 1,000*l.* in favour of Captain Rees H. Gronow (whose signature is annexed) to which we request your obliging attention.

"We are,

"Sirs,

"Your most obedient servants,

"*Coutts & Co.*

"Messrs. Stevenson & Co."

Did you pay checks in consequence of that letter of credit?—Yes.

Captain Gronow had no credit with your house but that letter of credit?—No.

To whom was that money paid?—The checks were remitted to London as they were paid.

To what persons were those checks given?—The first check was for 100*l.*

They were all disposed of in the course of the election, were they not?—After the 15th of November.

Can you give the names of the persons to whom the money was paid?—First of November, 100*l.*, paid to Mr. Lee; the next was drawn for 150*l.* in favour of himself; the next for 100*l.*, that was paid to Thomas Lee; the next, 150*l.*, that was paid to Joseph Paynter; the next was for 100*l.*; I have no particulars of that.

Do you know, of your own knowledge, how that money was disposed of?—No, I do not. The next is for 400*l.*

Were you examined before the Committee of the House of Commons?—Yes, I was.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Is Mr. Blunt in the habit of drawing checks on your house, on account of Lord Stafford and Lord Shrewsbury, for repairs done for houses, and for outgoings on the estate?—There are payments to Lord Stafford in the account.

Does your book show on what account those checks are drawn?—Not the purpose.

Whether they were for outgoings on the estate, or for other private purposes, your book will not show?—No.

You have no knowledge of your own on that subject?—No. There are entries of receipts, small cash receipts.

The question refers to checks drawn upon you?—I cannot give any account of those.

Re-examined by Mr. *Rushton.*

Does Lord Stafford keep any account with your house?—There was an account but not lately.

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Whether this money was paid in on account of Lord Stafford you cannot tell?—No.

Was any part of that last amount paid out to Mr. Webb, the solicitor, any part of the 1,661*l.*?—Not any part.

[*The Witness is directed to withdraw.*

[*Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till to-morrow, at Three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Veneris, 1° *Julii* 1836.

THE Order of the day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the Electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their Petition:

Counsel were accordingly called in.

Then *Charles Rowland* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Charles Rowland.
1 July 1836.

Mr. *Austin.*] WHAT are you?—A clerk in the House of Commons.

Were you an examiner in 1832?—Yes, I was.

What office is that?—I examined the printed proofs of the Parliamentary Papers.

That is the meaning of the word examiner?—Yes.

Were you assisted by readers?—By one reader.

What was your mode of examining papers?—The manuscript was read to me generally by my reader, and I corrected the proofs.

That is the form?—Yes.

How long were you engaged in the office of examiner?—Six or seven years.

Is the examination usually conducted so as to ensure accuracy in the printing?—I have no doubt about that.

From your experience of so many years?—Yes.

Do you recollect the printing of the Stafford Papers?—I do not.

When did you cease to be examiner?—In the middle of the last Session of Parliament.

Then you were examiner in 1833?—Yes.

Would it, in the course of business, have fallen to your duty to examine the Stafford Papers, if any such were ordered to be printed by the House of Commons?—I certainly think I should have examined them, but I am not able to say positively that was the case: in some cases, from the urgency of the thing, the examination of the proof is left to the printer.

Where do you get the written papers from with which the proof is examined? They are sent to the office by the printer.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Luke J. Hansard* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Luke J. Hansard.

Mr. *Austin.*] IS your father Printer to the House of Commons?—My father is, jointly with myself and uncle.

Do you remember the Stafford Papers being printed in 1833?—I do.

Did you revise them?—No; the readers that we employ for that purpose.

Do you remember that Report being printed at your office? [*A Report being shown to the Witness.*]—This is the one.

Have you any doubt that the lists at the end of the Report were printed accurately from the originals?—I have every reason to believe so; they were compared at our office by the readers, and they were subsequently sent to the Journal Office on a particular day, the 25th of July, and they returned to us the proofs from that office on the following day as corrected.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr.

Mr. *Whately* admitted that the lists were accurately printed from the copy which had been taken of the original; but contended that at present there was no proof before the House that the copy from the original was an accurate copy.

William Meeson.

1 July 1836.

Then *William Meeson* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Austin.*] TAKE that paper in your hand; just look at that paper [*handing a document to the Witness*]; you were asked yesterday as to the list that you delivered in in your examination before the House of Commons?—Yes.

Have you examined the printed paper I have just put into your hand; turn over to the end of it; do you believe that to be the list you handed in?—I cannot say positively.

Just examine it, and tell me whether you believe it?—I do.

Look at the name of John Batty the doorkeeper?—Yes, I observe that.

Do you remember whether that name was underlined in the list you gave in?—I believe it was.

Were there any other names so underlined?—Samuel Clewes.

Do you recollect his name being so underlined?—I do.

Why were those names underlined?—These were the men who were doorkeepers, and who were paid after the election was over.

Was that done to distinguish them from the others?—Yes, it was.

Does the whole number in that list amount to 299?—Two hundred and ninety-nine; it does.

I will ask you again the question that was put to you yesterday; having looked at that list, how many of Mr. Blunt's 476 voters do you believe to have received money at that election of 1832?—Two hundred and ninety-nine.

You informed their lordships that the number might be 200?—I did, I believe.

How many do you know received the money?—That I cannot say; I did not pay them myself.

Did you or your brother pay?—My brother.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Did you pay a single voter yourself?—I did not.

As far as your knowledge goes there was not a single person paid?—I did not see them paid.

From your own knowledge do you know of any one single person having been paid?—I do not.

You were asked whether that list is a copy of the one you made; do you mean to state that you know certainly that that is a copy of the list you made?—That book.

Yes?—I cannot say the book is an exact copy, not being my own writing.

I am referring to this list of names put into your hands by Mr. Austin; will you take on yourself to state that this is a correct copy of the list you made?—I can merely speak to the doorkeepers.

You remember that there were in your list certain persons who acted as doorkeepers, and you find those names here?—I do, I cannot speak to any others personally.

How many were there who were doorkeepers?—Fifteen or sixteen.

Do you remember who those persons were?—Not unless I heard the names called over, I do not; not the whole of them.

I think you say John Batty was the doorkeeper?—Yes.

Was your list scored under the names?—It was not; the doorkeepers were all at the end of the book.

I understood you to say that you understood they were underlined; that was a mistake?—Yes; I did not properly understand the question.

If I understood you rightly, the doorkeepers were not underlined in the written list you made out?—They were not.

But they are underlined in this book?—So it appears.

Now, in your list were the doorkeepers arranged alphabetically, as they happened to come, or were they put at the end of the names?—They were put at the end of the names.

That is not so in this book?—No, they are arranged alphabetically there.

William Meeson.

1 July 1836.

That is another instance in which, as far as your memory goes, this differs from the list you made out?—It does.

Were all the doorkeepers voters?—I believe they were.

Do you know whether there was one of the name of William Leese, from Wolverhampton?—I cannot recollect.

Do you remember whether any such person was a doorkeeper or not?—I do not recollect him.

Do you know whether there was a man of the name of John Rogers, a doorkeeper?—He was not.

Then, if he is underlined here as a doorkeeper, that would be another mistake in this list?—Yes.

Can you state whether this printed list contains the same names in other respects as were in your list handed in to the House of Commons?—I cannot.

Were any names struck out?—I believe there were two erasures in it.

And only two?—Only two, I believe; I cannot exactly recollect.

As far as your memory serves you, there were only two names that were struck out of your list?—I believe not more.

Who were those two names struck out of your list?—I believe they had polled in the morning, and received some part of the money for voting, and took it back afterwards, if I recollect right; and then I paid them after the election was over as doorkeepers.

Then there have not been struck out of your list 12 or 13 or 14 names?—I believe not.

You say that Mr. John Batty was a doorkeeper?—He was.

Was his name entered once or more than once?—I believe he was one that was entered twice.

Do you remember whether William Batty was a doorkeeper?—He was.

Do you remember any others that were doorkeepers?—William Greatorex.

Can you remember any others?—A person of the name of Day.

Joseph Day, or Edward Day?—Both. A person of the name of Draper another.

Do you remember any others?—Walter Birch.

Any others?—Thomas Kinderdine.

I see there is no mark against him here of any kind. Those persons, you say, were entered as doorkeepers in your list, and were not struck out?—They were not.

If I understand you rightly that is the only reason you have for supposing that this list is a copy of one you handed in?—The only reason.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Just look at the list again, and just look at every name which is underlined there. [*The Witness examined the list.*] Have you looked at them?—All that are underlined I have.

Look at John Batty, George Meeson; were those names erased in your copy?—Those two were.

Why were they erased in your copy?—After they had polled they went down to the Oak and received some money for polling.

Was John Caithness erased in your copy?—I think he was.

Why?—He was a poll clerk.

Look at John Rogers; was he erased?—I believe not.

Just try and recollect yourself; why do you believe he was not?—I recollect very well John Rogers coming to me, and I paid him something for his expenses coming from Birmingham; he did not poll.

Why do you believe that he was not erased in your copy?—I do not recollect whether he was.

Were you asked the question in the House of Commons, and do you recollect the answer you gave there?—I do not.

Try and remember as well as you can. Look at Edward Day?—Yes.

Was that name erased?—I believe not.

You believe not; why?—Because those names of doorkeepers were not entered in the book till after the election was over; at the latter end of the book.

Why?—Because he was a doorkeeper.

Look at the memorandum at the end of the list,—that last memorandum; was that memorandum at the bottom of your list?—That I cannot positively say.

Just

William Meeson.

1 July 1836.

Just try and recollect; do you recollect whether or not that memorandum was at the bottom of your list?—I cannot recollect.

Were you asked the question?—That I cannot remember.

And you do not recollect what answer you gave?—No, I cannot.

By a Lord.] You must recollect whether you wrote such a memorandum as that?—It was full three years ago that I was examined; I have had no opportunity of refreshing my memory of what transpired then; if I could possibly recollect I would not keep anything back.

Mr. *Austin.*] Then you have no memory either one way or the other, whether you wrote it or not?—I have not.

Did you ever cast up the names?—I think when I wrote out the names I put those numbers on the margin.

When did you do that?—When I made the copy.

Do you recollect what the last number was?—I do not.

You recollect casting them up?—I recollect putting the numbers every one on the margin.

You do recollect that?—Yes.

Do you recollect which name was No. 1?—I do not.

Do you remember all the names that are underscored in this list?—I do, except one; there is one here that I do not recollect, Samuel Clewes; and Leese I do not remember.

Do you recollect where Leese came from?—I see the name here now, or I did not know it before.

Do you remember it now?—I do.

Where did he come from?—From Wolverhampton.

Did you pay Leese's expenses?—I did. Thomas Moreton might be No. 1, for they polled in two courts, and were divided by the alphabet; one court begins with the Ms, and the other with the Ns.

The No. 2 is Richard Mountford; would he have polled in the same court as Thomas Moreton?—Yes; I should imagine he would.

By a Lord.] You paid the doorkeepers and not the voters?—No.

What were the doorkeepers paid?—Eight pounds was, I believe, the sum they were paid.

Did you give each of the doorkeepers 8 *l.*?—I did.

Did you not give some of them only 3 *l.*?—No; I believe I gave them all the same.

Did not those who were voters, and who received 5 *l.* for their votes, receive only 3 *l.* from you?—The sum was made up to 8 *l.*

Did you pay the 8 *l.* to them?—If I recollect right the money was paid at my brother's; and I paid them the 8 *l.*

You did not give them 8 *l.*, having ascertained that they had received the 5 *l.*?—I believe I did not.

The doorkeepers had all 8 *l.*?—Yes.

All the payments to which you have spoken are payments of voters who voted for Mr. Blunt, are they not?—They are.

[*The Witness handed in a sheet of the former printed Evidence.*

Mr. *Whateley* objected to the paper being given in evidence, as it was not proved to be a copy.

Mr. *Austin* contended that it was proved to be a copy of that which had been delivered in to the House of Commons.

The Counsel were informed, That the House were of opinion that the paper was admissible as a copy of that which had been delivered in to the House of Commons.

[*The same was delivered in and read as follows:*

William Meeson.

1 July 1836.

STAFFORD BOROUGH.—Appendix, No. 2.

List delivered in by Mr. William Meeson, containing 315 Names.

N.B.—The Names scored under are struck out in the Original.

No. in Book.	Names.	No. in Book.	Names.	No. in Book.	Names.
5	Allen, William.	100	Calkin, S.	186	Ford, J.
6	Allen, William, junr.	108	Crutchley Wm.	187	Finney, J.
7	Allen, James.	109	Crutchley, J.	188	Fallows, E.
18	Allen, James.	112	Collier, E.	192	Fallows, Thos.
25	Arrowsmith, George.	119	Careless, J.	193	Ford, J., jun.
34	Arrowsmith, Thomas.	120	Careless, J.	200	Fallows, J.
50	Adams, Robert.	121	Coates, J.	209	Fallows, J., snr.
51	Adams, Wm.	122	Clews, Ths.	217	Fallows, J.
283	Arrowsmith, Richd.	123	Chidley, J.	282	Ford, John Skilly.
291	Ashton, Adin.	124	Cooper, J.		
		125	Clews, Thos.	145	Godson, George.
		130	Cooke, Henry.	178	Godwin, J.
12	Bill, Richard.	131	Coldfield, T.	202	Gibbons, Wm.
16	Beech, Wm.	133	Careless, Thos.	203	Godwin, Wm.
22	Jno. Batty, a door-keeper.	157	Cross, J.	205	Godwin, G., senr.
		167	Clewlow, G.	207	Gilbert, S.
27	Bailey, Wm.	177	Clewlow, Jno.	212	Grattidge, J.
28	Bladon, Thos.	185	Cork, C.	213	Gilbert, J.
29	Bee, J.	198	Clewlow, Wm.	214	Godwin, J.
30	Bee, R.	199	Cook, T.	218	Gallimore, Edwd.
31	Birch, J.	279	Chatten, Jno.	225	Goodall, Henry.
32	Bott, Edward.	281	Caithness, Jno. Poll Clk.	273	Gallimore, Thos.
33	Bill, J.	310	Clewes, Saml.	294	Godwin, Jno.
35	Bott, J.			301	Greatorex, Wm.
37	Butler, Richard.				
38	Bailey, Wm.	106	Deavall, R.		
39	Bott, Edwd.	107	Deavall, Ed.	11	Hall, Geo.
40	Biddulph, Jno.	115	Dutton, C., jun.	140	Hawkins, Jas.
46	Bee, Wm.	116	Dutton, C., sen.	158	Hill, E.
47	Bagnall, J.	134	Dunn, Wm.	170	Hawkins. Jas.
49	Brown, John.	135	Day, J.	175	Hodson, Jno.
52	Biddulph, Jno., jun.	136	Dickinson, G.	183	Hubball, T.
53	Blakeman, J.	137	Dodd, J.	184	Hubball, S.
54	Bradbury, Thomas.	147	Deavenhall, Jno. C.	197	Hodson, J.
55	Bates, George.	149	Dean, Wm.	206	Horn, E.
58	Bennett, Thomas.	156	Day, Wm. jun.	210	Hall, J.
59	Bates, William.	164	Dale, Geo. S.	211	Hawkins, J.
60	Bickerton, Wm.	166	Dudley Thos.	216	Hodson, Thos.
61	Beardmore, Jas.	179	Dickenson, B.	220	Hodson, T.
62	Blakeman, Richd.	227	Dickenson, Thos.	223	Hodson, Nicholas.
54	Bott, R.	234	Dale, P.	222	Hall, Lewis.
70	Bould, J.	278	Dawson, Ed.	224	Hall, Omar.
71	Beardmore, Chas.	292	Darnford, Wm.	228	Hubbald.
72	Bromley, G.	299	Day, Ed.	230	Hammersley, J.
73	Bott, J.	307	Day, Joseph.	231	Humphreys, Wm.
74	Bradshaw, J.	308	Draper, Francis.	232	Hawkins, Jno.
93	Bullock, J.	309	Draper, Thomas.	233	Hillman, J.
99	Bird, Wm.	314	Dudley, Wm.	235	Hammersley, Isaac.
101	Brough, Thos.			236	Hammersley, Ralph.
104	Bailey, H.			237	Hill, Thos.
126	Boulton, J.	155	Ebberley, J.	238	Hall, Enoch.
127	Blackband, Rd.	168	Eley, Joseph.	239	Hall, Michael.
128	Bratt, Wm.	169	Emberton, Ephraim.	240	Horsenail, J.
129	Broose, Wm.	171	Eley, John.	241	Hammersley, Ed.
139	Bratt, F.	172	Emery, J.	242	Holford, J.
142	Beckett, J.	176	Emery, Wm.	243	Hall, J.
226	Bromley, John.	293	Eavans, Joseph.	244	Horsenail, James.
300	Batty, Wm.	315	Ebberley, Rich.	245	Hubbald, Thos.
302	Birch, Walter.			246	Hill, Wm. junr.
303	Batty, Jno. (paid).	180	Ford, W.	249	Horn, James.
		181	Fallows, Geo.	250	Hawkins, Wm.

William Meeson.

1 July 1836.

No. in Book.	Names.	No. in Book.	Names.	No. in Book.	Names
251	Hurd, Joseph.	9	Machin, David.	197	Rogers, John, did not poll.
252	Hammersley, Thos. (King's Arms.)	10	Mitchell, Peter.		
		19	Mitchell, Richd.		
253	Hall, Thos.	21	Meeson, James.	84	Smith, R.
254	Harvey, Robt.	23	Moreton, Wm.	87	Shaw, J.
255	Harvey, Thos.	24	Meeson, Geo., a door-keeper.	88	Spilsbury, J.
256	Hawkins, Thos.			89	Stonier, Rd.
257	Hubball, J.	26	Meeson, Rd.	90	Salt, J.
261	Hawkins, Ed.	56	Moore, J.	91	Smith, Wm.
162	Hill, Ed. junr.	95	Mather, Ed.	92	Shenton, S,. junr.
163	Hubbald, Saml.	102	Moore, J.	96	Snape, Thos.
267	Hawkins, Wm.	105	Mountford, J.	98	Smith, J., junr.
272	Hollies, W.	215	Moseley, Michael.	118	Stokes, J.
276	Hornsby, Js.	287	Moore, Henry.	132	Stanton, Thos.
285	Hubball, Thos. junr.	295	Meeson, Jno.	141	Shenton, B.
298	Holford, Wm.	306	Meeson, Geo., paid before.	144	Spilsbury, J.
				201	Shenton, J.
258	Insley, Thos.	312	Mountford, John.	264	Simpson, Thos.
259	Insley, Wm.	204	Murry, Wm.	288	Smith, Fredk.
260	Insley, Charles.			289	Smith, Wm.
265	Johnson, J.	17	Nield, Wm.	191	Shenton, S.
266	Johnson, W.	48	Nixon, Wm.		
268	Ilsley, Thos.	66	Nevitt, W.	111	Taylor, J.
269	Jenkinson, G. H.			113	Thompson, T.
270	Johnson, Rd.	20	Orpin, Ed.	114	Till, J.
271	Johnson, Geo.			138	Tavenor, G.
275	Jones, Peter.	36	Perkin, J.	159	Taylor, S.
286	Ilsley, Joseph, jr.	41	Paddison, Js.	162	Thompson, Wm.
311	Johnson, John.	42	Parker, Geo.	165	Thorpe, J.
		43	Peake, Jno., jnr.	173	Tagg, J.
146	Keate, J.	44	Pilsbury, Lewis.	174	Talbott, R.
285	Keates, Geor.	45	Pilsbury, Wm.	208	Tinkler, Js.
290	Keys, Thos.	57	Phillips, Wm.	229	Thorpe, Ed.
304	Kinderdine, Thos.	65	Pickin, E.	280	Taylor, Wm.
		67	Pickin, Wm.	305	Tonks, Peter.
83	Lloyd, H.	68	Pilsbury, G.	194	Till, T., glazier.
189	Lloyd, John.	69	Pilsbury, L.		
190	Lloyd, Wm.	78	Peake, Thos.	143	Weaver, Joseph,
247	Lloyd, Edwd.	94	Plant, Wm.	148	Williams, J.
248	Lloyd, Js.	110	Pickin, Thos.	150	Williams, T.
277	Lakin, Charles.			151	Wood, J.
296	Lowes, James.	63	Reeves, Wm.	152	Wright, W.
313	Leese, Wm., from Wolverhampton; expenses paid.	75	Russell, J., junr.	153	Watwood, Wm.
		76	Ryley, J.	154	Wood, G.
		77	Rotchell, Saml.	160	Wolliscroft, J.
		79	Rose, J.	161	Wilkes, T.
	Moreton, Thomas.	80	Rose, Geo.	163	Wynne, F.
15	Moreton, James.	81	Rogers, J.	182	Wilkes, J.
2	Mountford, Richard.	82	Rogers, Wm.	195	Wettow, G
3	Meeson, Richard.	85	Robinson, J.	219	Wickstead, T.
4	Moore, Richard.	86	Rogers, Moses.	221	Warner, J.
13	Moore, William.	97	Ryley, J.	27	Ward, Ths.
14	Moore, Charles.	103	Robotham, G.		
8	Mitchell, Wm.	117	Rowley, G.	196	Yates, J.

This leaves 299 unpaid votes.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Thomas Kinderdine* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows.

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a burgess of Stafford?—Yes.
Did you reside there in the year 1832?—Yes.
You remember the election in that year?—Yes.
Were you in Stafford then?—Yes.
Had you any employment during the election?—Yes.
What were you?—Doorkeeper.

Thomas Kinderdine.

1 July 1836.

For whom were you doorkeeper?—Mr. Blunt.

At what place?—The Swan inn.

Had Mr. Blunt a committee there?—Yes, he had.

Were you at the Swan inn on Sunday night of the election?—Yes; I was.

Was that the day before the election or the day but one?—I believe it was the day before the polling.

Were there many persons there?—Yes; there was a vast quantity.

Was there a principal room and an ante-room?—Mr. Blunt had a room and Mr. Gronow had a room.

In the same place?—In the same house.

Do you know Mr. Painter?—Perfectly well.

Was he there?—Yes.

Do you know Samuel Stokes?—Yes, very well.

Was he there?—Yes.

And Louis Pilsbury?—Yes, I believe he was there.

Was Mr. Bostock there?—I cannot swear.

Do you know the freemen of Stafford well?—Very well.

Were many of the freemen there?—Yes; I saw a good many of the freemen there.

Did they go into either of those rooms which Mr. Blunt had, or Captain Gronow?—Yes.

Did you understand what their object was there; were you with them?—Yes, I was there, because I lived at the Swan.

What did they go into the rooms for?—I cannot exactly say.

Do you say that you cannot say; were you there yourself?—I was, but not inside the room.

Did you hear any of the men speak to Painter?—Yes; I believe I did.

Do you recollect what they said to Painter, or what Painter said to them?—I cannot swear to it.

Do you remember anything about it?—There was something said by Painter to one or two of them, but to recollect the words to swear I could not.

Can you tell us the purport of it; the meaning of what they said without the exact words?—No, I cannot; not to swear positively.

Can you recollect anything about it?—It was something over money as was given the next day; but to swear it I could not.

It was something over the money?—As one of the burgesses told me.

Were you present?—He came out and told me.

Was the next day the day of the election?—Yes, I believe it was.

Did you hear any bargain with Stokes, or Pilsbury, or Painter?—Why, they were doorkeepers.

Who were?—Stokes and Pilsbury.

Did you hear any bargain between them?—I cannot remember.

Between Stokes and any other person?—I cannot recollect, it is such a long while ago.

Between Pilsbury and any other person?—I cannot recollect.

Was anything said about the money being put into the hands of somebody; come, remember; you have been examined on this subject before, have you not?—Yes, I have; but I never thought of it from that day to this.

Was Mr. Painter asked in your presence to put the money down?—That I cannot swear.

Was anything said about the amount which they were to receive?—I heard one of them say it was either 50*s.* or 5 *l.*

Was anything said at that time?—I am sure I cannot recollect.

Was anything more said about Greatorex's—Not at that time.

At any time?—Next day.

What was said the next day about Greatorex?—When they were paying the money there.

Who was paying the money there?—Captain Gronow's party.

Where is Greatorex?—It is in the town, close to the bridge.

A public-house?—Yes; New inn.

Did you see any of them go to Greatorex?—I did, in the morning of polling.

Do you remember seeing a man of the name of Asbury there?—I saw him come back again.

Did

Thomas Kinderdine.

1 July 1836.

Did you see him come out of the house?—I saw him come out of the yard; I believe it was out of the yard; I will not swear that.

Had he any money with him?—That I cannot swear.

Do you remember his saying any thing to you?—He did say something to me; what it was I could not say.

Did he show you the money?—I saw several with money, but I cannot swear who they were.

You cannot to Asbury?—No, I cannot.

Were you in the hall on the afternoon of that day?—I was.

Did you see Mr. Painter there?—I did.

What was he doing?—I suppose him to be getting votes for Captain Gronow.

What do you mean by getting votes?—To get men to poll for Captain Gronow.

How did he do that?—That I cannot say.

Did he take hold of them?—Yes.

Did you hear him say anything to them?—Yes, I heard him talk to them, but I cannot recollect the words.

You do not remember what he said?—Not exactly.

Do you remember anything about it?—I remember him taking one man and me another.

Where did you take them to?—It was close to the place of polling.

Did you take one to the poll?—I took one.

What was his name?—Hawkins.

Did you stay with him while he polled?—Yes.

Did you go with him afterwards?—No.

Did you make any bargain with him?—No; I took the lame Hawkins.

Did you make any bargain with him?—Not at all; to my recollection I did not, and I do not believe that I did.

Did he receive anything?—Not that I know of.

You have been examined upon this subject before?—Yes.

There were two Hawkins's?—Yes; I took the lame one.

Did you promise anything to the other?—I did not; I think it was Pilsbury as took the other one; I will not swear positively.

Did you go with either of them after they had voted?—I did not with either of them, to my recollection.

Do you remember being at the Oak at that election?—Yes, I was there.

Do you remember seeing John Meeson there?—Yes, he was there.

Do you remember Crutchley being there?—Yes, of the Talbot.

Who went with you to the Oak public-house?—I cannot say, for there were many passing and repassing.

Do you mean to say that lame Hawkins did not go with you?—Well, I cannot recollect.

Try to recollect yourself?—I do not believe he did.

Do you remember being examined on this subject before?—I remember very little about it; I remember being examined.

Did you ever say that you had been at the Oak with Hawkins?—I cannot tell that; I have been there with him, but not on electioneering business.

When was it that you were with him there?—I was with him several times previous to the election.

Were you there with him at the election?—I cannot say; I do not believe that I was.

Were you not there when Meeson and Crutchley were in the room, and Hawkins in the room?—I cannot swear, I am sure; I do not believe that I was.

Did you take any check with you when you got to the Oak?—No, not at all.

Did you go by yourself to the Oak during the election?—I cannot say, I am sure, whether I went by myself, for there were such a vast quantity.

You were there?—Betimes.

What did you go for?—For a glass of porter.

Did you go into the room where Meeson and Crutchley were?—I saw Mr. Meeson in the room.

Had they a table before them?—Yes.

What was on the table?—They were paying money for Mr. Blunt's votes.

How do you know that?—It was so said.

Did you see any paid?—I did not, not as I can recollect.

Thomas Kinderdine.

1 July 1836.

Was Hawkins there when you were there at any one of those times?—I do not believe that he was; he might.

Have you any doubt that you took him there?—Yes, I have a doubt; I did not take him there.

Have you ever said that you took Hawkins there, and he might have been paid 8*l.*?—I might have said so.

If you said so was it the truth?—I cannot swear whether I took Hawkins there or not.

You took Hawkins to the poll?—Yes.

Did you go with him from the poll to the Oak?—I do not recollect.

Did you meet him there?—I do not recollect.

Did you meet him there?—He might be there.

Have you any doubt that he was there?—I have not the least doubt that he was there, but not from my taking.

How do you know that he was there?—I have not the least doubt that he was there, but not from my taking.

Have you never said, that when you took Hawkins into the Oak, John Meeson and Mr. Crutchley gave him eight sovereigns, and that you said that he had polled for Blunt?—That I might have said.

Have you any doubt of it?—I have a doubt; I cannot recollect at this present time.

Did you say that he was to have 8*l.*, and did Crutchley say, "We are giving 8*l.* a-piece to plumpers; fetch as many as you can?"—I did.

Were there notes and gold on the table?—I saw some gold on the table, but I did not see notes.

When you said that Hawkins was to have 8*l.* did they pay him the 8*l.*?—I cannot say.

Have you never said that they took eight sovereigns off the table and paid him?—I might have said so, but I cannot say now; I cannot recollect it, in fact.

If you said so was it the fact?—Yes, if I have said so.

Do you remember whether Captain Chetwynd had a house at Stafford during the election?—Yes.

Were you there at that public house open for Captain Chetwynd?—I was at the George very little.

Were other persons going with you?—No; I was not there above twice during the whole of the election.

At either of those times did you receive a ticket?—No, never, at the George I did.

Did you ever receive any money at the George?—No, never electioneering money.

What money did you receive?—I received for parcels and different things that I took there.

But not electioneering money?—Never in my life.

Were you at any other house of Captain Chetwynd's where money was paid?—No, not one.

Have you never sworn that you were; have you ever sworn that you received 10*s.* a-piece at Captain Chetwynd's house, or any public house, during the election?—Never; I cannot recollect ever saying so.

You live at the Swan?—I live there when I am at home now.

Do you remember during that election a man of the name of William Bentley coming to the Swan?—Perfectly well.

What is he?—A boot and shoemaker.

A burgess of Stafford?—I cannot say whether he was a burgess or an elector; a burgess, I think.

At what time did he come there?—At night.

Was he there during the day?—He might have been.

Do you remember his coming to the Swan with his face smeared with black?—I do.

Was John Meeson there?—I cannot remember whether John Meeson was there.

Can you remember anybody that was present?—I recollect a man of the name of William Greatorex; he was present.

Do you remember anything passing about bidding for him?—He came in with a smock frock on, and I said "This is not a place for you." It was morning; I told him the hour of the morning, and he got on the bench, and was very much intoxicated with liquor apparently.

Did

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Did you then bid for him?—I did.

Did you bid a price for his vote?—I did.

What was the offer?—It was nothing but a romance.

Never mind; what did you offer?—Fifty shillings.

Did Greatorex bid higher than you?—He did. I cannot swear whether it was Greatorex or not; but the other person did.

What was the highest price bid for him?—Five pounds.

That was during the election of 1832?—It was just before the election.

By a Lord.] Do you mean to say that that was a joke or a serious bidding?—Nothing but a joke; he was intoxicated and somebody had blacked his face; he got upon the bench, and he was knocked down instead of his vote being knocked.

The man was knocked down?—Yes.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Were you there when the poll began on the first day of the election?—Yes.

What was the price then?—There was no price for Mr. Blunt at the first starting of the polling.

When did the price first begin?—After the polling began.

How long?—I cannot say.

Do you know what it was at first?—Fifty shillings; and 5*l.* was Mr. Gronow's.

What was Mr. Blunt's?—He would not give anything.

When he had begun?—He would not; I went and told some of the agents that Gronow was giving 50*s.* and 5*l.*, and we should lose.

What was done upon it?—I cannot say what was done.

Was anything given by Blunt after that?—Yes; I believe there was.

Do you know how much?—Fifty shillings and 5*l.*

He began with 50*s.* and 5*l.*?—That was at first.

Did the price increase during the day?—Towards the night.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Did you see money paid?—I never did.

Mr. *Rushton.*] How do you know that money was paid for votes?—I never saw one paid.

How do you know that the voters were paid for Mr. Blunt?—I saw some of them going up to the room, and there was money there, and they said that they were paid; but I never saw any paid.

Were they voters?—I cannot swear that they were voters or not, for there were many persons in Stafford that were not burgesses, that got money at the last time.

We are not speaking of the last time; you were at the house and saw money on the table, and voters in the room?—I saw them go in.

You saw them when they came?—Yes.

Did I understand you right, that Asbury showed you something when you came back?—I cannot recollect.

Will you swear that he did not?—I cannot remember at this present time; but I told you that I did see some money with some of the party at Gronow's.

When Mr. Blunt first commenced it was 5*l.*; to what did it get during the day?—It got, I believe, to 8*l.*

Are you sure it did not get to more?—No; I do not believe it did.

Did you hear this price offered in the hall at Stafford?—I did not.

Did you hear Painter offer it to anybody?—Yes; I heard Painter say that he would give 8*l.*, or whether he did not show me a bag, I cannot swear positively.

You have an impression that he showed you a bag?—I never gave it a thought since.

How came you to refer to the subject of the bag being shown to you?—Because you tell me about Painter.

Will you swear that Painter did not shake a bag at you, and say, "We will do you with this stuff?"—I believe he did; but I cannot swear it positively.

Have you never said so in another place?—Well, I might have done.

Did you not say so positively in another place that he did do that?—I might have said so; and if I have said so I have no doubt but what it is correct.

Was this in the open hall?—I do not know whether it was in the hall or in the market-place.

But at one or the other?—I cannot swear positively whether it was in one or no.

You did not get anything from Captain Chetwynd's party, I think?—No.

When the voters came to the Swan on the Sunday night, did they object to the

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price of 5*l.*?—I heard many of them say that they would not vote for Gronow for 5*l.*

What did they say?—I cannot recollect now, it is such a long while ago.

Did they say anything about any other sum?—Well, I cannot recollect.

Do you know a man of the name of Birtles, a sawer?—Yes, I do.

Did you take him to vote?—Well, I cannot recollect that, I am sure.

Have you ever said that you took Birtles the sawyer to vote, and that he got 11*l.* for his vote?

Mr. *Whately* objected to the question.

Mr. *Rushton* was heard in support of the question; and Counsel were informed that the question could be put.

The question was read:

No; I do not believe that ever I did say so.

Did you ever go with him to vote?—No, I do not believe that ever I did; in fact, I am certain I never did.

Will you swear that you never said that you had taken Birtles to vote, and that he had got 10*l.* for his vote?—I never took him to vote in my life.

And have never said that you did, and that he got 11*l.* for his vote?—He might have got 11*l.* for his vote; but not from my taking him to vote.

Will you now swear that you never said that you took Birtles the sawyer to vote, and that he got 11*l.* for his vote?—If I have said so it must be incorrect.

Will you say whether you ever said so or not?—I can never recollect so saying.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

How many persons will you take upon yourself to swear, being voters of Stafford, you saw in the Oak public house?—I cannot swear; there were so many people as are not voters that go there.

Will you swear that you saw any one single voter that you remember in that room by name?—I saw Burnet Wood, but whether he is a voter or not I cannot say.

That is not my question; you say you were in the room, and saw sovereigns on the table; will you take upon yourself to swear that you saw any voters at the time there?—I saw voters go into the room.

Did you see any going into the room?—I did.

How many?—I cannot say.

Tell me any one name of any voter that you saw?—I cannot recollect any one name at that time; it is different at other times.

Will you swear that you saw any single sovereign given to any man in that room?—Never.

Or in any other place?—No, I do not know as I did.

Will you take upon yourself to swear also that you remember old Painter shaking a bag at you?—Yes.

You mean to say that you do remember that?—I remember his showing me a bag, but whether on the outside of the hall or the inside I cannot say.

Is old Painter alive or dead?—He has been dead some time.

How long?—A month or six weeks.

Do not you know that he most positively denied that fact?—I do not know whether he did or not.

Was any other person present at the time that Painter shook that bag at you that you can name?—No; I cannot recollect any person.

You cannot bring any person now present to vouch for your accuracy upon that subject?—No, I cannot.

By a Lord.] Whom did you vote for yourself?—Mr. Blunt.

A single vote?—Yes.

What did you receive for it?—I received nothing; Mr. Meeson gave us 8*l.* afterwards for door-keeping.

Were you a doorkeeper?—Yes.

Where were you paid?—At Mr. Meeson's house, after the election.

Were you paid the 8*l.* by him?—Yes, I believe I was; I am certain I was; he gave me money to pay me and three or four more for door-keeping.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then

Then *Samuel Harding* was called in, and having been sworn, was Examined as follows: *Samuel Harding.*

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Mr. *Austin.*] WHAT are you?—I am in no business at all.

Were you in any business in 1832?—No, I was not.

Where are you living?—Bayham-terrace, Camden-town.

Were you examined before the Committee of the House of Commons relative to the borough of Stafford?—I was.

Also before the Committee of the House of Lords?—I was.

Did you go to Stafford in the year 1832?—Yes.

At the time you went to Stafford had you been acquainted with the place?—Not at all.

Were you a stranger to the place?—Quite so.

At whose desire did you go?—I went down to see a friend of mine who went there, Mr. Nixon.

Do you know where Mr. Nixon is now?—Mr. Nixon is very ill, I understand, very ill indeed; unable to answer any question; and I believe he is gone to Sussex.

What is the matter with him; do you know the nature of his illness?—No, I do not.

Do you know whether it affects his understanding or not?—Yes; he was taken with a paralytic affection.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Do you know that?—Yes; I am intimately acquainted with him, and he has not been himself for these last four or five months, from a paralytic.

Mr. *Austin.*] You say you went to Stafford at his request?—He asked me if I would come to see him at Stafford, and I said I would.

Did you go?—I did.

At what time of the year was that?—At the time of the election, in November or December, I think.

How long did the election take place after you got to Stafford?—I arrived there on the Friday, and I think it took place on the Monday.

Where did you go to on your arrival?—I went to the Swan, I think.

Did you see Captain Gronow at the Swan Inn?—He was not there then.

Did you see him there at all?—I saw him at lodgings in the town.

Did you see him there?—I might, but I cannot say positively that I did.

Was there a committee-room?—There was a room opened for the committee.

Up stairs or down?—Down stairs, on the ground floor.

Whose committee-room was that?—It was called Captain Gronow's, I think.

Do you know whether Mr. Blunt's committee was at the house?—There was.

Were you present at the meetings of the committee?—No.

You were not?—I do not know that there was any committee formed that I had anything to do with, but it was called a committee-room.

Did you see any persons in that room?—Yes.

Were you present when any persons were in that room?—Yes.

Were you present at their consultations?—I do not know that I was; I breakfasted in the room, and dined in the room; but I do not know that I was present at the consultations.

Do you know a person of the name of Greatorex?—I have heard of the name, but I do not know him.

Did you attend at the house called Greatorex's?—Yes, at the end of the town; I thought it was a shop when I attended there.

When did you begin attending there?—On the Monday morning.

By whose direction?—By a gentleman who was there of the name of Mr. Talton, who asked me to go there.

Did you see Mr. Talton at the committee-room of the Swan?—I think Mr. Talton came down on the Saturday; yes, on the Sunday I saw him there.

You saw him at the committee-room on the Sunday?—Yes.

Captain Gronow's committee-room?—Captain Gronow's room, which they called a committee-room.

Do you know where Mr. Talton is now?—No, I do not; but I think he has been in Paris; he has been, I believe, living there since.

Do you know that he has been living there since?—I saw him there; but I do not know that he is living there now.

Had you any instructions when you went to Greatorex's house in the morning?—I was called out of the room, and asked to go down to Greatorex's; and I was

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asked to go to this house at the end of the town, and if I would have the goodness to pay some tickets, and I refused it; I said I came down for a piece of fun, or something of the kind, and I did not like to be locked up there; but they prevailed upon me, and I did go.

Who were the persons that requested you to do so?—Mr. Talton.

And anybody else?—Not anybody else.

Did you receive any money?—Yes.

Before you went?—As I was going down.

Where did you receive it?—I think at the banking-house.

Was anybody in your company at that time?—Mr. Talton.

How much did you receive?—One thousand pounds; change for 1,000*l.* check.

In what form?—In small change; small 5*l.*; silver and gold.

Did you receive any more money in the course of the day?—Yes, I did.

How much?—Upon my word I cannot say how much; 500*l.* or 600*l.*

Did you receive that sum at once or in different parcels?—I think I received twice money, or three times; but I cannot say, for I have not the memorandum.

From whom did you receive it?—By order of Mr. Talton, and once of Mr. Talton.

Where was this?—At the house that I was sitting at.

At Greatorex's?—Yes.

And once by his order?—There was some person that I was unacquainted with that brought me some more money, but what it was I cannot say.

Were those three sums all the money you received on the first day?—I think they were.

Did you receive any further sum of money?—I did, on the Tuesday.

From whom?—I have forgotten the man's name.

From Mr. Painter?—Yes.

Where did you receive that?—I received it in the market-place.

Was it given to you privately or openly?—It was given to me openly in the market-place.

In what form was it given to you?—I think it was 500*l.*, in 5*l.* country notes.

Was it loose or in a roll?—It was in a roll. I think it it was one hundred 5*l.* notes; I am pretty sure it was.

At what time did you get to Greatorex's house on the Monday?—The election began at nine. I should think I was there by ten, or somewhat thereabouts; I cannot say to half an hour.

Was there a sign at Greatorex's house?—Upon my word I do not think there was, for I thought it was a wheeler's shop. I went through a long yard. I should not know it again if I was to go there again, never having been there before.

Was it at the bridge?—Yes, very near the bridge, at the beginning of the town.

Had you received any instructions as to the mode in which you were to pay the money?—Yes.

What were those instructions?—The instructions were, that I was to pay 2*l.* 10*s.* to begin with, for a card that had a single seal upon it, and I was to pay 5*l.* for a card that had a double seal upon it.

Did any persons come with those cards after you had arrived at the house?—Oh dear, yes.

How soon did they begin to come?—Directly I got there almost.

Did they bring the tickets?—Yes.

Did you pay the tickets according to your instructions?—Yes.

At the rates you have mentioned?—At the rates I have mentioned, the first day, until twelve or one o'clock; somewhere thereabouts; I cannot say to half an hour.

Did any change take place at twelve or one o'clock?—Yes.

What?—I was then to pay 3*l.* and 6*l.*

Was that in consequence of further instructions?—It was.

Do you know where those instructions came from?—From Mr. Talton.

Were you informed why the price was raised?—I was merely told, I believe, in the moment, that the other party was paying as much, and we must do the same.

Who told you that?—I am sure I do not know who came in the room, and who brought the message; I do not know who it was.

Was there a further rise in the course of that day?—Yes.

At about what o'clock?—I should think about an hour or two afterwards.

At three o'clock?—I suppose it might be.

Did you receive fresh instructions?—Yes.

By the same hand?—By his order.

You mean by Mr. Talton's order?—Yes; I do not know whether it was not himself, but I cannot swear to that.

What was the message delivered?—That we were to pay 3*l.* 10*s.* and 7*l.*

Was any reason stated at the time that this order was made to you?—No further reason than that the others were doing the same, or something to that purpose.

Were they all the instructions you received on that day?—I believe I might have received one or two others, because I paid, I believe, some to the amount of 10*l.*

For the single votes?—Yes; I think there was one ran as high as 12*l.*; but I have not the memorandums; I believe the Lords have the memorandums; they were all marked at the time I gave them up.

You paid as high as 12*l.*?—I think one; I do not know that there was any more.

Did you pay on the Tuesday morning?—Yes, I did.

How long did you continue paying on the Tuesday?—I think I paid on the Tuesday till the election was over.

Did you pay at the same rates?—We were paying, I forget what it was; I lost the memorandum of the Tuesday morning, but I believe they were high rates; I had 500 *l.*, and I paid till——

Till you stopped payment?—No; we did not stop payment for want of means, but till I was stopped because the election was over.

At what time was the order for stopping given?—I do not know; but I believe it might have been eleven or twelve or one o'clock, for the election was over early on the Tuesday morning; I cannot speak now, it is so long ago.

Do you remember how many of those tickets you have described were brought to you in the course of two days?—They were all counted, and I believe they were all sealed up.

What became of them after you had received them?—I put them all into my hat; that was the way they were saved; to make an account of them; I did it for that purpose and no other.

Did you make an account of them?—I took an account of them; I counted them over.

Is that what you mean by taking an account of them?—Yes.

Did you make any marks upon the tickets as you received them?—Some of them.

Some you did?—Yes.

Was anything upon the tickets besides the seals?—Yes, the names.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Did you deliver tickets in to the house?—I delivered the tickets in to the house.

Did you deliver any list of names?—I believe that they were delivered in.

Mr. *Austin.*] I have asked you, I think, whether anything was upon those tickets but the seals; you say the names were on the tickets?—Yes.

And you also said, that upon some of them you made marks?—Yes, a good many of them.

What was the nature of the marks?—I made marks upon those which bore a very large price, at the back. I did it to assist me in accounting for the money more than anything else.

Was it only upon the large price tickets that you made your marks?—Upon some of the small price tickets when I begun, but when they rose to 3*l.*, I put 3*l.* at the back of some of the tickets, and when they rose to 3*l.* 10*s.*, I put 3*l.* 10*s.* at the back, thinking that I could enumerate the amounts.

Did you write anything but the price upon the tickets?—I believe that the tickets were all out on the first day, and there were no more sealed tickets, and as they came down to be paid, gentlemen came in, and said that those were the persons to be paid; they had no more tickets. I said I could not pay without tickets; and they said I might make tickets, and I wrote on a piece of paper S. H., the initials of my name; that was merely on paper.

Did you make any other mark upon the tickets besides the amount of price?—I think I marked upon the tickets by whose directions I was to pay 8*l.*, 9*l.* and 10*l.* By order of Mr. Talton. I was to pay some by order of somebody else. I was to pay such a price, and I then put the name on the back.

Did you put your initials upon any of them?—I do not know whether I put my initials to the tickets. If I made tickets, I put the initials as marking the price; "S. H."; it was my own hand-writing.

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Besides those tickets which you have described, that is to say, the name of the voter and the price in your own hand-writing, the initials, were there any other figures upon the tickets?—I think the tickets were numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, and so on.

Was there a still further figure upon the tickets, do you recollect?—I do not think that there was; there might have been.

Were you furnished with the register of the voters?—No.

And you do not recollect whether there was a second number upon the tickets or not?—In what way do you mean by second number?

Was the first number in black ink or red?—That I cannot recollect now.

Do you recollect whether there was a red ink number upon the tickets or not?—I think there was, but I do not know; I cannot speak to that; I have forgotten now.

Then, besides those tickets, I understood you to say that you made some yourself?—Little pieces of paper with "S. H." upon them, with the persons' names that received the money, as they marked them.

Upon those tickets you took them from your own information?—No; from the doorkeeper, who said such and such people were there to be paid, and their names were sent in, and I wrote "S. H." upon the tickets, and the names were put upon the tickets outside the door.

To whom did you give those tickets; you told us you gave them to some person just now?—I did not give them to any person; I brought them to the Committee of the House of Lords, and they ordered them to be sealed.

Did you leave them?—Yes; I left them with the officer of the House of Lords. They were sealed by my Lord Radnor.

Did you afterwards attend the Committee of the House of Commons upon this subject?—Yes.

Did you see them there?—Yes.

Were they sealed when they were produced?—Yes.

Did you see the seal broken and the tickets produced?—Yes.

Did you count them upon that occasion?—Yes.

Do you remember how many there were?—There were 470 odd, or nearly 500.

Did they remain in the possession of the officer of the House of Commons?—Yes, I believe they did. I gave ten before that to Mr. Ellice.

Do you remember the names of any of the voters?—I might recollect the names of them, but I am unknown to any of them.

Look at that list, in page 175; look at the names in that column?—I recollect the names, but I should not know the men.

Do you know a single name?—I recollect the Bentleys, I think.

Do you recollect the name of Bentley?—I think I do.

Just read the description that you find there of the ticket; was that the kind of ticket that Bentley brought?—There is no description of the tickets here; "128" there is; that is the number of the ticket.

Was that the kind of ticket; I do not ask you as to the particular one?—I dare say it was.

Do those descriptions in general correspond with the tickets that you saw before the two committees?—Yes, they do.

Was there any person stationed at the door of the room where you paid the tickets?—Yes.

A doorkeeper?—I believe he was a doorkeeper.

How were the persons admitted who came with the tickets?—The door was opened, they came in, and received their money, and went out again, and others then did the same, as fast as I could pay them.

They opened the door to themselves?—I do not know.

Who introduced them?—The tickets introduced them; nothing else.

Did any person come in who had not a ticket?—No.

Did you pay them all?—I paid them all.

How long were you at Greatorex's on the first day?—I think I was there till near six or seven o'clock in the evening.

Were you occupied in paying money for tickets during all that time?—Yes.

Did you canvass at all during your stay in Stafford?—I went round to beer-shops on the Saturday evening.

With whom did you go?—With three or four people that went with me from the inn.

Did

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Did you find any persons in the beer-shops?—O yes, a great many.

Did you canvass them there?—No, I did not canvass there; I did not know anybody there; I only went in, and they said it was Captain Gronow's friend, and then they hurraed, and we gave them something to drink; that was all I did.

Did you give away any other money but that you have described?—I do not know. I and Mr. Talton had given some money away on the Sunday evening to their wives.

Did you?—I did; I do not know whether it was me or Mr. Talton.

Did he give any away?—Yes, I think so.

In what shape was it?—Silver.

To whom was it given?—To the women; to the wives, as we supposed, of some of the men.

Where did you see them?—Some at the public houses, and some at the doors of their own houses, as we were passing by; we never went into one of their houses.

Did you call any out to the doors of the houses?—No, they were all out of the doors.

Who were?—The women were all out of the doors.

Do I understand you to say that you gave the money generally as you went through the street?—We gave to a great many who asked us; but how much to each I cannot say.

Do you remember how much to each; a shilling?—We did not give merely a shilling, but five shillings and four shillings to people.

Did you go through the town?—Not generally; to a great many we did.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley:*

What are you by trade or profession?—I have not been in any trade for a long time.

What were you?—I was a jeweller in Oxford-street several years ago.

How long have you given up business?—Ever since 1826.

Are you a personal friend of Captain Gronow?—I know Captain Gronow.

Are you a personal friend of his?—Not at all; I knew him in Paris; that is all I know of him.

When did you become acquainted with him in Paris?—I saw him in Paris when I was there, in 1827 or 1828, I think it was.

Were you there on a journey of pleasure at that time, or business?—On a journey of pleasure.

Where did you become acquainted with him in Paris?—In the Boulevards I met him first, but he knew me a little in London, but not intimately.

How had you become acquainted with him in London?—He used to come to my shop.

You became acquainted with him as a tradesman?—Yes.

And who is Mr. Talton?—A gentleman who was intimate with him.

He appears to be a friend of yours?—Yes.

What is he by business or trade?—A gentleman; he lived in Northumberland.

Where did he live when you became acquainted with him?—This is young Mr. Talton that I speak of.

Is the one who went down to Stafford the son or the father?—The brother. It is the second son that I know.

What is he by business?—He is in no business.

Where does he live?—He generally resides with his father, in Paris.

What is his father?—A gentlemen, I believe.

Where did you meet with Mr. Talton when he asked you to go to Stafford?—He did not ask me; I went to see Mr. Nixon.

How came he to go down there?—Because he knew Mr. Gronow, who had served him in his business.

How long had he been there?—I think he went on the Wednesday, and I went on the Thursday.

What pressing engagement was there to carry you down there?—Nothing in the world but a journey, and that I might see an election.

At whose expense?—At my own expense.

When did you see Captain Gronow?—I saw him enter the town, and that was on the Saturday evening.

Where did you live during the election?—I put up at the Swan, where Mr. Nixon had.

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How long ago is it since you saw Mr. Talton last?—I have not seen him since the election.

When did you see Mr. Nixon last?—A few days ago.

How long ago?—Five days ago.

Where?—In the City.

Was he able to speak and to hear?—He could speak and he could hear, but he could not understand.

Had you any conversation with him?—I had a little.

Did he understand what you said?—He knew nothing about this.

Do you mean to say that you have had conversation with him, but that he did not understand what you said to him?—I think he was so lost that he did not understand.

You mean to represent that you had a conversation with a man who did not understand what you said to him?—I do not think that he did understand what I said to him.

How long did your conversation last?—Five minutes, or ten minutes.

Upon what subject was it?—It was only how do you do, and how do you do, and that was all.

What answer did he give when you asked him how he was?—He shook his head, and said he thought he should get better, and all that sort of thing.

What led you to believe that he did not understand what you said when you asked him how he was?—Well, I do not think he did.

Where is Mr. Nixon now?—I do not know; I think he is gone into the country.

What makes you think so?—Because his brother told me so.

Is he in any business?—He is an upholsterer.

Where does he carry on business?—In Great Portland-street, London.

But you saw him in the City?—Yes.

Not at his residence?—No.

What was he doing in the City?—I cannot say what he was doing.

At whose house did you see him there?—Am I forced to answer that question?

I will not press that question. You were a stranger in Stafford?—Quite so.

Did you know a single person there by sight or by name when you went down?—Not any.

And all you know is, that certain persons presented tickets and that you paid those persons?—That is all.

Did you give any women anything?—Yes.

Those tickets were brought by women, were they?—No, not one; not those tickets.

Did I understand you that you gave part of those tickets to Mr. Ellice?—Yes.

Who is Mr. Ellice?—I believe Mr. Ellice is Under Secretary.

Do you mean Mr. Edward Ellice, the Under Secretary of State?—Yes.

How came you to give them to him?—I was desired to do so by Captain Gronow.

Did you learn from Mr. Ellice that he had given Captain Gronow any of the money to spend at the Stafford election?—Never.

But, at all events, you gave up some of those tickets to Mr. Ellice?—I did.

Where were they when you saw them last; in Mr. Ellice's possession?—No; they were in the House of Lords.

Do you mean to say that those tickets were given back to you?—They were shown to me in the Committee of the House of Commons.

Some of them, you say, were sealed by my Lord Radnor; did they include the tickets you had given to Mr. Ellice?—I think they did; the ten tickets were there.

Did you inquire of Mr. Ellice whether those tickets were in his possession?—I have never seen him since?

Did Mr. Ellice enter into any examination of your knowledge of the Stafford election?—I think I went to Mr. Ellice's house.

Did Mr. Ellice enter into any examination of your knowledge of the Stafford election?—He asked me some questions.

Did he ask you whether you had paid money for those tickets?—I believe he did.

Did he ask you how much you had paid for each?—Yes.

When did you account to Mr. Ellice for the sum you had paid?—No; I never accounted to him at all.

Did

Samuel Harding.

1 July 1836.

Did you mention to him the sums of money you had paid for those tickets?—Yes.

That was at the close of the election of 1832?—When I was sent for.

Was Captain Gronow present?—No.

Did you learn that Mr. Ellice wished to know about the money paid for those tickets?—No. It is the first that I have heard of the money; all he wanted was the tickets.

Why should he want them?—I do not know that.

You mean that he, at the time he was Under Secretary of State, required those tickets relating to the Stafford election?—I do not know what he wanted them for.

Did you ever see Mr. Ellice and Captain Gronow together upon the subject of these tickets?—No.

Did you see Captain Gronow afterwards upon the subject?—I have seen him since, but not upon the subject. Captain Gronow said I had better give up the tickets, and give all the information I could.

But did you see Mr. Ellice and give up the tickets?—For half an hour.

Half an hour?—I suppose five minutes.

You said half an hour?—I should have said five minutes. I do not suppose that Mr. Ellice kept us for so long; I was not in his presence long.

Were you with him an hour or five minutes?—I should suppose in his presence I was not five or ten minutes, but I might have been in the house half an hour.

Were you with him as long as ten minutes?—Very likely.

Do you know whether any other person went beside yourself?—I really forget it; I think there was somebody.

Who was that?—It could not have been anybody but Mr. Nixon.

Was it Mr. Nixon?—I believe it was.

Then you went down to Stafford at the request of Mr. Nixon, and he accompanied you to Mr. Ellice?—Yes.

Did you mention to Mr. Ellice how many tickets you had?—I do not know whether Mr. Ellice did not see them all.

Did you mention to Mr. Ellice how much money you had paid upon those tickets; did you not state, in the course of conversation, how much money you had paid?—I do not know.

Will you swear you did not mention to Mr. Ellice how much money you had paid upon those tickets?—I do not know; I might have or I might not.

Will you have the goodness to look at that list of names; did you deliver in a list of tickets you had?—No, I did not.

Then all you did was to deliver in certain tickets that were given to you at Stafford?—Yes.

Then what do you mean when you swear you believe that to be a correct list?—I did not swear that it was a correct list. I was asked if any of those names corresponded with the tickets that were opposite to my name, and I said I thought they did.

Do you mean to swear, at this distance of time, not having seen any list at all, that this list contains the names of some that were on the tickets?—I cannot speak but to two or three that I know their names, and what they had.

Will you have the goodness to tell me how far you will venture to go as to names of persons you remember?—I do not know, unless I was to go over it accurately; I do not know that I should have half-a-dozen.

Did you not assert that it was a correct list?—I did not.

Do you know anything about the persons in this list?—I do not know them.

Do you know any thing at all about the names of persons in this list?—There are some that I recollect.

You say you remember Bentley; will you venture to speak to any other than Bentley?—I have not looked it over; I could name two or three who were in the house when I was there, but I do not know that I should know them; "Painter" appears to be in my handwriting.

How is it in your handwriting?—If the tickets were here I should say Mr. Bostock. I know these here are somewhat similar to those I put upon the tickets; and here is another Bentley, 4*l.*; of Bostock's order, 8*l.*; this must have been in my handwriting.

You say they must have been; do you know that they were; can you tell me

Samuel Harding.

1 July 1836.

that it was Bentley?—I can tell from the name "Bentley" that I paid by order of him supplying money, and that is all I can tell.

By the order of whom?—When the tickets rose to 8*l.* it was by the order of Bostock.

Did he give an order?—He made an agreement with me for 8*l.*

But by whose order did you pay them?—By order of Mr. Talton.

Mr. Talton is not here?—I have not seen him since.

Captain Gronow is not here?—No.

Were you acquainted at that time with the Rev. Mr. Gronow, Captain Gronow's brother?—No.

You say you remember Talton giving away some money; did you go with him?—Yes.

How many persons will you swear he gave to; did you see him give to more than twenty women?—I should think he did, but I cannot swear to it.

It was a few shillings given to buy tea?—I do not know what it was to buy.

Was it not something of that sort?—Yes; it was not money taken into calculation; it was given to the women.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

You say you saw Nixon five days ago?—Yes.

Was he, in your opinion, able to appear at the bar of this House to give evidence?—No, he was not.

What is the total number of tickets that you found when you counted them?—Four hundred and seventy, odd.

Is that including the ten tickets that you gave to Mr. Ellice?—I believe that those were handed in.

Did that include the ten tickets?—I think it did.

Were the ten tickets before the Committee of the House of Commons when you saw them produced there?—I think they were.

Did you see those ten tickets before the Committee of the House of Lords?—Yes.

Do you recollect who produced them?—I think it was my Lord Radnor.

Was it my Lord Radnor or Mr. Ellice?—Mr. Ellice! I never saw him in the Committee of the House of Lords.

Did you see him in the House of Commons?—No.

Were you present when he was examined in the House of Commons?—No; I should not know him again.

By a Lord.] What took you to Mr. Ellice's?—I was desired to go to Mr. Ellice.

By whom?—By Captain Gronow.

How soon after the election?—That I cannot tell.

As near as you can?—I think it might be two, three or four months after the election. I recollect Captain Gronow writing to me, desiring me to call upon Mr. Ellice; and he told me that a petition was presented against the election, and it would be necessary that my evidence should be given. He had been in the House of Commons, and he had taken his seat, so that it must be longer ago than that; and I had better go to Mr. Ellice, and give every information I could, if he asked me; but when it was I do not know; it must have been later than I mentioned.

You went to Mr. Ellice's at Captain Gronow's desire?—Yes.

It was in consequence of a petition having been presented about the election to the House of Commons?—Yes.

A Committee having been appointed to try the merits of the election?—Yes.

And it was to give Mr. Ellice information of that subject that you were to go to Mr. Ellice?—Yes.

For that purpose you gave him those tickets?—Yes.

Did you leave them with him?—Ten.

When you were examined before the Committee of the House of Lords there were other tickets?—Yes.

Do you know what became of them?—They were left and sealed. I sealed them; and I believe the Earl of Radnor sealed them with his seal.

Do you know who produced them?—I produced them.

They were left in the charge of the Committee?—Yes; and then afterwards they were ordered from the Lords to the Committee that was sitting.

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You saw them afterwards, did you?—Yes; I saw them when the Committee was sitting in the House of Commons; and I broke the seal of them and counted them.

Were the ten tickets that you left with Mr. Ellice amongst them?—

Then when you went to Mr. Ellice it was to give information about the mode in which the election had been conducted; and you gave information of those tickets?—Yes.

He did not require you to give an account of the money that was paid?—No; he never said anything about the money.

You went down to Stafford without any intention of being involved in a business of this sort?—Quite unintentional.

Had you any intention of paying money?—No.

What was your reason for going to Stafford?—That I had a few days' holyday, and it was immaterial where I went; and I went down to see the humours of an election.

And you went to Stafford where the humours were of this description?—I did.

Did you take down 1,000*l.* with you?—No, not a penny.

You received all this money that you paid away there?—Yes.

You took just the money to pay your expenses there and back again?—Yes.

Did you pay your own expenses back again?—Part of them; I came back with Captain Gronow in a barouche.

At his expense?—I do not know whether at my own or his expense.

Had you any relatives or connexions at Stafford?—No.

You formed acquaintance very soon?—No; I did not form any acquaintance, any further than to see that election; I do not know that I saw a person there.

Who trusted you with the money, being an entire stranger?—Mr. Talton.

Was he a stranger to you before this?—Yes.

How did you become acquainted with the people in the barouche?—That was in coming home.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till Monday next, at three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Lunæ, 4° *Julii* 1836.

THE order of the day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled, "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill, and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their petition;

Counsel were called in.

Then *Joshua Field* was called in, and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Joshua Field.
4 July 1836.

By a Lord.] YOU are a clerk of the Bank of England?—I am.

Have you the number for a bank bill for 500*l.*, dated the 8th of August 1832, and numbered 8,595?—Yes.

To whom was that bill issued by the bank?—Coutts & Co.

At what time?—On the 31st of August 1832.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

C. E. Waller.

4 July 1836.

Then *Charles Edward Waller* was called in, and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

By a Lord.] YOU are a clerk in the Bank of England?—A cashier in the Bank of England.

Have you an account of another bill for 500*l.*, issued about the same time?—I have an account of one issued the 11th of October.

Give the date and number of that note?—Number 1,306; dated the 24th of September.

For what value?—Five hundred pounds.

To whom was it paid?—To Martin & Co. bankers, in Lombard-street.

At what time?—On the 11th of October 1832.

You are sure of that date?—Yes, by our books.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Richard Pegler* was called in, and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Richard Pegler.

By a Lord.] YOU are a clerk of Messrs. Coutts &. Co.?—I am.

Did Captain Gronow keep cash with you?—He did.

Will you look at that letter of credit now shown to you?—That is our letter of credit.

Did you receive two bank notes for 500*l.* each from him at any time?—We did.

Give the dates and numbers?—Two 500*l.* notes; No. 8,595, the 8th of August 1832; the other, 1,306, the 24th of September 1832.

Those two bills are for 500*l.* each?—They are.

Did Captain Gronow pay those bills into your house?—He did.

What was the state of Captain Gronow's account with you at that time before he paid in those bills?—

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

[*The Witness and the Counsel were again called in, and the question was proposed.*]

His account was, in cash, 2*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*

On receiving that 1,000*l.* did you give him a letter of credit to the bank at Stafford?—The same day he paid it in.

What was the name of the banker?—Stevenson & Co.

Where is Captain Gronow now?—At Boulogne.

Where is Mr. Gronow, his brother?—We believe him to be in Wales.

Do you know where in Wales?—I do not know his address; he does not keep an account with us.

In what part of Wales?—I am not in the least aware.

Whether in North or in South Wales?—No.

When did you last hear from him?—From Captain Gronow we heard a short time ago, but we do not correspond with his brother.

Did Mr. Gronow keep an account with you?—No; it was Captain Gronow kept an account with us.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *John Meeson* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

John Meeson.

Mr. *Austin.*] WHERE do you live?—At Stafford.

What is your business?—An innkeeper.

Were you in Stafford at the election of 1832?—Yes.

Were you there during the whole time of the election?—Yes.

Were you engaged in the election?—I paid some money.

Where did you receive the money which you paid?—From Mr. Webb and my brother.

Is that Mr. William Meeson?—Yes.

How much money did you receive from Webb?—I believe it was 500*l.*

What is Webb's christian name?—Charles Webb.

How much did you receive from your brother?—It was the same.

Five

John Meeson.

4 July 1836.

Five hundred pounds more?—No; it was the same sum; they were together when I received it.

Did you receive no more than 500*l.*?—I did not.

Had you more than 500*l.* in your possession?—Yes.

How much had you altogether?—I believe there were 800*l.* Mr. Wood fetched 300*l.*

Where did you get the other 500*l.*, making 1,300*l.*?—I do not recollect any more.

Try and recollect yourself. You have been examined before the Committee of the House of Commons, have you not?—Yes.

Did you not tell the Committee of the House of Commons you had received 1,300*l.*?—Not that I recollect.

Did you not tell the Committee of the House of Commons from whom you received the other 500*l.*?—Not that I recollect.

Try and recollect whether you answered that question?—To the best of my recollection I did not.

Do you mean that you recollect only receiving one 500*l.*?—Yes.

What were the instructions you received with the money?—To pay voters.

Where were you instructed to pay voters?—At the Oak.

Was that a public-house in Stafford?—Yes.

Did you go there?—Yes.

At what time did you go to the Oak?—I should think a little more than half-past nine.

In the morning?—Yes.

At what time did you receive your instructions to pay money?—At the time.

You went immediately?—Yes.

Was that before the poll opened?—No; after that.

How long after the poll opened?—About half an hour, I think.

Were you a member of Mr. Blunt's committee?—No.

Had he a committee?—I am sure I cannot tell.

Had you any conversation before the Monday morning about the mode of conducting the election?—No.

Whereabouts is the Oak situated; is it in the street?—Yes, below the Market-place.

Where is the room in the Oak to which you went?—It is a back room.

Had you the whole 800*l.* at the time you went to the back room?—No; 500*l.*

In what form were the 500*l.*?—Sovereigns, I believe.

The whole 500*l.*?—Yes.

Were the 500*l.* afterwards brought you in sovereigns?—I believe they were.

At what time did you begin to pay the money?—I suppose about 10 o'clock, as far as I can recollect.

To what persons did you pay it?—I am sure I cannot say now.

What were they; burgesses, or what?—Yes.

How did you know they were burgesses?—We received notes.

Describe what sort of notes you received?—A bit of paper with the names upon them.

Was that piece of paper called a check?—Yes.

How many names were written upon each of the checks?—Four or five.

Who brought those checks?—I am sure I cannot say.

I do not mean the persons; but were they brought by the voters or anybody else?—They might be voters, I cannot say.

Did you know the persons who brought the checks, or the persons whose names were in them?—The persons whose names were in them.

Were the persons who brought the checks the persons that received the money, or other persons?—They came, some with them and some after them.

Was any body in the room when you made the payments except yourself and the voters?—O yes.

Who?—Mr. Crutchley.

He was employed in paying, was not he?—He looked the checks over, I think.

Was Wakefield there?—Yes; he put them into the book, I believe.

Was it your duty to pay?—Yes.

You say there was a book; what was the use of that book?—To put the names and the sums in the book.

Was that done at the time the check was presented and the money paid?—Yes.

How much did you give the voters?—I think it was 50*s.*

John Meeson.

4 July 1836.

Was that the highest sum you gave to any voter?—No.

What was the highest sum you gave?—As far as I recollect it was 7*l.*

Was that given for the single vote?—Yes; there was more than the one sum which was given to voters in general.

Why was that?—If they voted a certain way there was more money.

How much was that?—I think 5*l.*

It was 2*l.* 10*s.* and 5*l.*?—Yes.

You say you gave 7*l.* to somebody; did not you pay a higher sum than that?—I might; but I do not recollect.

By whose directions did you give those sums of 5*l.* and 2*l.* 10*s.*?—My brother's.

Did he order you to give those sums?—Yes.

Did he give you any reason for paying those particular sums?—No.

Were those the prices generally paid during the day, or did the prices rise?—They rose in the course of the day.

Who raised them; did you do it yourself, or did you do it in consequence of instructions received?—In consequence of the instructions I received.

Where did you get those instructions?—I believe Mr. Batty was one person.

Mr. Peter Batty?—Yes.

Did he bring you instructions?—Yes.

What instructions did he bring you?—I cannot exactly say; but that they were to have so much more; I cannot say how much it was.

Did he give any reason for paying so much more?—No.

Try and recollect; were any reasons given you?—No.

Were any reasons given you for raising the price by any other persons?—I believe they did say that Captain Gronow was giving more money, and they must do the same; something of that sort, but I cannot recollect the particulars.

Is that all?—I believe it is.

Did you see Mr. Wood in the course of the day?—Yes.

Did he give you any further instructions?—I believe he came; yes he did.

What was the total sum of money you paid away; do you recollect?—I do not.

About how much; have you forgotten the evidence you gave before the Committee of the House of Commons?—Five hundred pounds I first received; and I might have paid about 100*l.* of the other money, and Mr. Wood paid some more.

Did you or not receive in the whole 1,300*l.*?—No.

Have you never said that you received 1,300*l.*?—No, not to the best of my knowledge.

Have you never said you had paid 1,200*l.* out of the 1,300*l.*?—I never recollect saying that.

Was it the fact; did you receive 1,300*l.* and pay 1,200*l.*, or not?—To the best of my knowledge, not.

If you said so before, was that an error?—I do not recollect having said it.

How much did you receive from your brother altogether?—Five hundred pounds.

How much from Webb?—They were both together when I received the 500*l.*

Do you mean to say that you received but one sum of 500*l.*?—Yes.

Did you account for the money to your brother?—Yes.

What became of the book in which the names were entered?—I believe it was taken to my brother's.

Was it one book or more?—I believe one book.

That was given to your brother, William Meeson?—Yes.

Did you give it him yourself?—I believe not; I believe it was Mr. Charles Wood or Mr. Wakefield.

Try and recollect yourself; did you give it to him yourself?—To the best of my knowledge I did not.

Did you see it given to him?—No; I do not think I did; I do not recollect.

Did you see it in his possession?—I do not recollect that I did.

When was the last time that you saw the book; your evidence, you recollect, is all down here?—In the House of Commons, I think.

Was your brother before the Committee of the House of Commons with you?—Yes.

Were you in the Committee-room at the same time with your brother?—No.

But you saw the book yourself when it was on the table in the Committee-room of the House of Commons, did you not?—Yes. I believe they asked me something about the payment of the money.

Did you see the book?—Of course I must.

That

That was the book that had been kept?—Yes.
That book you have not seen since?—No.
Did you pay any money on the second day?—No.
At what time did you leave off on the first day?—About four o'clock I think it was.
Was that the time when the poll closed?—I did not stay to finish paying; Mr. Wood stopped to finish.
You were not the only person who paid money?—No.
Did Mr. Wood get money from anybody else?—He had 300*l.* from Mr. Webb.
Did Crutchley get money from anybody else?—No.
Mr. Wakefield?—No.
On the morning of the second day Mr. Blunt had resigned, had he not?—Yes.
Was that generally known?—I believe it was.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

I believe you are a tenant of Lord Stafford's, are you not, at Stafford?—I am.
And Mr. Blunt is his agent?—Yes.
Are you a native of Stafford?—Yes.
Have you lived there all your lifetime?—Yes.
Had you ever anything to do with any previous election before that of 1832?—None.
Were you acquainted with the persons of the burgesses, or was the money given to any persons who brought you the papers?—The persons who brought those to us had the money.
You did not personally know them?—No.
Did the persons afterwards come with the lists?—No, not always.
Had you any personal knowledge that the persons who came to you and applied to you were the persons actually named in the list?—I might know a few of them.
Did you know the great majority?—No.
You did not know whether they were voters or not?—No.
You have mentioned some book in which some names were written; who wrote those names?—Charles Wakefield.
You did not?—No.
What became of the book after the names were written in it?—I believe it was given to my brother.
Did you see it given to your brother?—No.
You do not know of your own knowledge what became of the book after the names were written in it?—No.
Did you examine that book yourself?—Never.
How do you know that was the same book that was on the table of the Committee-room of the House of Commons; did you examine it there?—There was something stated about the different sums.
Did you examine personally that book yourself, so as to be able to speak with certainty to its being the same book which was written by Wakefield?—Yes, I believe I did.
Did you examine it in the Committee-room?—Yes.
Did you examine the names when Wakefield wrote them?—I did not.
How do you know it is the same book or the same names?—I know his writing.
Do you know it was the same book he wrote at the time; you cannot state that?—No, I do not.
I do not understand you to mean that you could identify the book that was on the table of the Committee-room of the House of Commons to be the book written at the time of the election by Wakefield?—No.
Did you ever see that book again, that purported to be that book, after you left the Committee-room of the house of Commons?—Never.
And, as I understand, you did not examine it there, except to look at a name or names?—No, nothing more than that.
What was the day of the month when you received this money from your brother and Webb?—Upon my word I cannot say.
Was it the first day of the election?—Yes; the first day.
Do you not know that the poll had been going on for an hour and a half or for two hours before any money was given to you by Mr. Charles Webb?—Some time, but I do not know exactly the time.

John Meeson.

4 July 1836.

Will you take upon yourself to say that it might not be so much as an hour and a half or two hours?—I would not; it was after the poll had begun.

After it had begun some time?—Yes.

Whether it was an hour and a half or two hours you cannot tell?—No.

If any other person had said it was two hours, you would not venture to say that person was incorrect?—No.

You have mentioned a man of the name of Peter Batty being in the room; you are satisfied that he was in the room that day?—Yes.

On the day when any money was paid, or are you confounding any other time?—No; that was the time.

At what time of the day?—I am sure I cannot tell the time exactly.

Was it the morning or the afternoon?—Upon my word I do not recollect.

Was he there once or more than once?—I cannot say.

Nor how long he staid?—He did not stay long.

Supposing Batty should say he was not there, would that at all alter your opinion whether he was there or not?—No, it would not.

You are satisfied that the whole of the money you received was 500 *l.* from your brother and Webb when together, and 300 *l.* afterwards from Wood?—Yes.

What became of the lists of names, what you call checks?—I am sure I do not know.

Did you ever see them since?—No.

Did you ever look for them?—No.

You have never searched for them since?—No.

For aught you know they may be still at your house?—They were not at my house, because everything was delivered to my brother.

Those lists of names as well as the checks?—I would not be certain whether they were; they would not be all kept perhaps.

Did you know the handwriting of those likewise?—No.

You do not know whether those persons had actually polled or not?—I do not.

For all you know, the persons who came and asked for the money might have written out that check?—For all I know.

Whether they voted or not, or whether they were voters or not, you do not know?—Some of them I knew, some I did not.

Whether they had voted or not you cannot tell?—No.

And as to most of them, whether they were voters or not you do not know?—No, I do not.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

You say you did not know all the people who came?—No.

But you knew some of them?—Yes.

Were those who did come voters?—Yes.

Do you know in any way where they got the checks?—I understood they came from the court.

From the hall?—Yes.

Did you know who gave them the checks at the hall?—I did not.

Can you furnish me with the names of those persons who were likely to have given them checks?—I cannot.

Try; you know the persons who conducted the election?—I know very few of them indeed.

Did you know the check clerks?—No, I did not.

You do not recollect one?—No, I do not.

Were Wakefield and Crutchley and Wood all the day in the room at the Oak?—Wakefield and Crutchley were.

Wood?—Part of the day.

I think you say that you knew the handwriting of the party who made out the book when you saw it before the Committee of the House of Commons?—Yes, I knew his handwriting.

You knew the book again when you saw it?—I fancy I knew the book; I knew the several sums that were in the book.

Did you know the book when you saw it; try and recollect yourself?—I knew it was his writing; but I cannot say whether it was the book.

Did you know the book when you saw it?—I say I knew the writing.

Was the book put into your hand?—I am sure I forget whether it was or was not; whether I took it in my hand or not.

Did you know the book again when you saw it?—I knew the writing.

Did

John Meeson.
4 July 1836.

Did you know the book again? Attend to the question and answer it; you have been examined as to all this before, you know. Did you know the book again?—I do not know whether it was the same book or not, I am sure.

Did you know the book again at the time it was shown to you; how many times had you seen the book in this room at the Oak?—I took very little notice of it; I was paying money while he was writing in the book.

Did you see the names written in the book?—No.

How did you know that was the book then?—Because I knew the writing.

How did you know whether that was the writing?—Because I knew the sums that I paid to particular voters.

You knew it because you saw some sums mentioned against the names of voters which you saw paid to them?—I knew the sums I had paid to voters, and I knew the handwriting.

By a Lord.] What was said to you when this money was given to you; where was it given to you?—It was at the bank.

What was said to you?—It was to pay the voters.

That was told you?—Yes.

You knew you were to pay the voters?—Yes.

As soon as you got the money what did you do?—I went to the Oak.

You went to the back-room?—Yes.

Was that room pointed out as the room you were to go to?—I believe it was.

When was it pointed out to you?—They told me so at the time.

They told you to go to the Oak and pay the voters?—Yes.

Those who came with the checks?—Yes.

Did you or not know which were voters?—Some of them I knew.

Did you believe they were all voters?—I could not tell they were all voters.

Being told you were to pay voters, do you mean to say you paid any you did not know to be voters?—I paid those that brought the papers.

They purported to be voters?—Yes.

Did you believe them to be voters?—Yes, or I should not have paid them.

They were all voters in Mr. Blunt's interest; voters who had voted for Mr. Blunt?—Yes.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Peter Battye* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Peter Battye.

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a burgess of Stafford?—I am.

Are you a shoemaker?—I am not.

What are you?—I am in no way of business; I was a shoe manufacturer at the time the evidence was taken.

Do you remember the election of 1832 at Stafford?—I do.

Had you any communication with Meeson during that election; William Meeson?—Frequently.

Were you a friend of Mr. Blunt's?—I was.

Did you canvass for Mr. Blunt?—I did.

Were you a member of his committee?—There was no committee.

Was there any meeting of his friends?—Frequently.

Where?—At the Swan.

Were those meetings daily?—Yes.

Were they for the purpose of conducting the election?—They were.

They were not a committee?—No, not a committee.

Do you remember the Monday morning, the first day of the election?—Perfectly well.

Had you a communication with Meeson that morning?—About two hours after the polling commenced.

Was that touching the price of votes?—No, it was not.

What was it?—We were talking that Gronow was getting the lead of us, and he went down to the Swan, and I never saw him afterwards, and began paying money immediately afterwards.

Who paid the money?—I cannot tell. Gronow's people were paying.

Did you begin afterwards?—Yes, I believe so; I heard so; but I did not see it done.

You did not see money paid?—No.

Did you offer money to voters for their votes?—At night I did.

Peter Battye.

4 July 1836.

During the day?—No, I did not.

Did you promise money during the day?—I told them they would be paid.

During the day?—Yes.

Did you tell them where to go in order to be paid?—I did not.

Did you send none to the Oak public-house?—No.

What did you promise them?—I did not promise any specific sum that they would be paid; but that we would do the same as the rest.

Do you know what was paid during the day?—Fifty shillings in the beginning of the day, I understand.

Did the payment rise?—I heard so, but I did not pay it.

Do you know whether it was 8*l.* once?—That I cannot say.

Did you make any distinction between the single votes and the split votes?—No. I believe we did not think we should want the single votes.

You paid the same price for all?—I did not see anything paid.

Did you promise the same?—I said they would be paid.

Both those that voted singly and those that voted split votes?—We told them we did not want single votes, but if they voted for us they should be paid the same as the rest.

You promised they should be paid?—Yes.

You do not know that they were paid?—I did not see them paid.

Did you tell those persons openly in the street they would be paid for their votes?—Yes.

Wherever you met the voters?—Yes; not so loud that people could hear.

In the Shire-hall?—Yes.

Is the market-place immediately before the hall?—Yes.

Were the voters in groups in the market-place?—Yes; a great quantity of them.

Did you promise them payment there?—Yes.

What was the highest sum you offered for a vote at Stafford?—I offered at night one family of the name of Lortons a considerable sum, but I cannot tell what sum it was; they said they would not if I would give them a hat-full of guineas.

Do you remember promising any one 15*l.*?—That was Lortons; they said they had promised, and would not break their word.

Did you tell those people where to get the money?—No; they gave me a direct answer, and I did not trouble them more.

You mean the Lortons?—Yes.

Did you send any person to the Oak public-house that day?—Not to the best of my recollection.

Will you undertake to say you did not?—I might have done so, but I believe I did not.

Do you know what was going on at the Oak?—From hearsay.

Did you give any instructions to the persons at the Oak?—I did not.

Not on any occasion?—No, not on any occasion.

Who were at the Oak?—I cannot say; Mr. Blunt's friends, I suppose.

Do you know John Meeson?—Very well.

Crutchley?—Yes.

And Wakefield?—Yes.

Do you mean to swear you did not see them at the Oak that day?—I am upon my oath; I never went near them; I was in the hall.

How soon did the price begin to rise?—Late at night, from what I heard; I did not see any money paid.

But you knew what the price was?—Not exactly.

When you negotiated with those men in the market-place, did you not tell them what would be paid?—I told them they would be paid the same as the rest; I did not know what it was that was being paid at the time.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

When was the first time you canvassed for Mr. Blunt?—It was a considerable time before the polling; perhaps it might be a month.

In the course of your canvass was anything said about money?—Not at all.

When was the first time anything was said about money?—On the first day of the poll; about two hours after the poll had commenced.

It came from yourself; you were the person that first mentioned it; you mentioned it to the voters?—I named it to the voters.

Peter Batty.

4 July 1836.

It did not come from them?—No; I said they would be paid the same as the rest; I understood that Gronow was paying money.

That was voluntary on your part?—Yes.

You, understanding that Gronow was paying them, said "You shall have the same as the rest?"—Yes.

You say you were not at the Oak yourself at all?—I was not.

And you saw no money paid yourself?—I did not.

And you sent no one to the Oak?—I sent no one, to the best of my knowledge.

Did you send any one to the Oak?—I believe I did not.

You sent no message to raise the price?—That I am sure I did not.

What was your reason for offering money to those people?—I told them they would be paid the same as the rest; I knew that our cause was losing.

In consequence of others paying money?—Yes; in consequence of others paying money.

What class of persons were those that you offered money to in this way?—They were shoemakers.

The upper or lower class?—The lower class.

You say you offered a sum in the evening of Monday, to a family of the name of Lorton; what was their answer?—They told me they would not turn their coats if I would give them a hat-full of guineas; they promised they would not turn their coats.

Can you say how much you offered them?—Perhaps 40*l.* among them for the votes.

How many were there?—Three, I think.

They would not receive the 40*l.*?—No; they told me if I would give them a hat-full of guineas they would not accept it.

Will you describe the situation of the market-place; is it not just before the hall?—A very large square before the county-hall.

It is the regular approach to the hall?—Yes.

That was where the voters would be standing before they voted?—Yes; they must go up that way to vote.

Re-examined by Mr. *Rushton.*

For whom did the Lortons vote at that election?—For Captain Gronow.

How did you know of the sums that were paying at the Oak or other places?—Merely from report in the hall; I heard men talking about it; I said they should be paid as the rest.

Will you swear you were not there present?—I will.

Will you swear you did not send instructions to the Oak of the sums they were to be paid?—I am almost confident I did not.

Were you examined before the Committee of the House of Commons upon that subject?—I was.

Did you not state that you had sent instructions to the Oak?—Not to the best of my recollection.

You mean to state that you did not give the instructions?—To the best of my recollection I did not.

You undertake to say you did not give the instructions?—I might send down, but to the best of my belief I did not.

Do you think you could have forgotten it if you had so done?—I do not think I could if I had done it.

The Lortons voted for Captain Gronow, did they?—Yes.

By a Lord.] This payment of voters did not begin till the end of the first day?—When I heard of it first, was about two hours or two hours and a half after the polling had commenced; I heard that Captain Gronow was paying money for voters.

You were understood to say you made no mention to the voters of an intention to pay them till the end of the first day?—After the first two hours of polling.

Did you begin the election with the intention of carrying it through without any payment?—We did.

Was it in consequence of Captain Gronow's payments, that you felt yourselves induced to make those payments?—It was.

You started originally with the intention of conducting the election without payment?—Yes.

Peter Batte.

4 July 1836.

How do you know that?—There was nothing said about it.

It was not said that you intended to go on without paying?—No.

It was not said that you would not pay?—No; if there had been anything of that kind said I must have heard it.

Were you not, when the election began, hoping to get through without any payment to the electors, till Captain Gronow began his payment?—We were; I thought so.

You yourself were present?—Yes.

That was your own private feeling?—Yes.

For whom were you agent?—I assisted Mr. Blunt in his election.

What were you paid for your services?—He sent me after the election was over ten guineas, and a note, saying it was to drink his health, "Not as a remuneration for your services, but to drink my health."

Was that all he said?—Yes.

Are you a tenant of Lord Stafford's?—I am not; I live upon our own premises.

You were aware you acted improperly and illegally when you offered money to the Lortons for their votes?—I did not think I was doing wrong.

The custom was so general, perhaps?—There had been one election where there had been no paying; that was Mr. Benson's election.

In what year was that?—About ten or eleven years back.

No bribery?—He did not bribe; we had nothing to do with the other parties; I voted for him; there was not a farthing paid for anything.

How long have you lived at Stafford?—All my lifetime.

And you remember all the elections?—Yes, all, except when I was an apprentice at Macclesfield.

That time when Mr. Benson paid nothing was the only election you know when there was no payment?—I know other elections where voters have not been paid.

How many elections have you known in all?—Four or five.

Not more?—No.

How many have you known in which there was no payment?—That I cannot say; I did not interfere so much with them.

You said there was one at which there had been no payments?—I know of one where there were no payments.

Now you say you have known more than one?—Yes, more at which they received no money; I received none myself.

How many more in which they received none?—I have heard of Campbell's, and I have heard of other elections, where they have received none.

You say you have known an election where men were not paid, and afterwards that you knew of other elections in which men were not paid; how many have you known in which the voters were not paid?—I cannot say.

Do you think more than two?—Yes, I do.

How many more than two?—Benson's and Sir John Campbell's first election, there was no money paid to my knowledge.

Did not Mr. Benson promise to pay?—Not that I know of; I never heard that.

Was not there great disappointment that he did not pay?—Not that I know of.

You know you are upon your oath?—Yes.

Do you mean to say there was not great disappointment when Mr. Benson went away without paying?—I did not hear them complain of his leaving without paying.

You say there was not anything said about money till the first day of polling; did not you give away ticket money?—Yes, I heard of that.

That was before the first day's polling?—Yes.

Was Mr. Benson returned?—He was.

By ticket-money you mean the tickets for the 5*s.* that was given to the women?—Yes.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till To-morrow at Three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Martis, 5° die Julii, 1836.

THE Order of the Day being read for the further consideration and Second Reading of the Bill, intituled "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for Witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their Petition;

Counsel were called in.

Edwin Bostock, was again called in, and further Examined as follows:

Edwin Bostock.

5 July 1836.

Mr. Rushton.] ARE you a burgess of Stafford?—No.

Did you reside at Stafford during the election in 1832?—I did.

Did you act for Captain Gronow upon that occasion?—I did.

Did you canvass for him?—I do not recollect.

Were you a member of his committee?—I never knew they were called a committee.

Were you a friend of his who occasionally assembled with others?—Yes.

At what house?—At the house where he was.

Did you act in concert on that occasion with Mr. Painter?—Yes.

Mr. Kingston?—Yes.

Mr. Sellars?—Yes.

And other persons?—I did.

Did you arrange the method in which this election was to be conducted?—I did not arrange it.

Were you present when it was arranged?—I cannot answer that question.

Was any arrangement as to the payment of voters made in your presence?—I believe there was, but I really do not recollect.

When was this?—I cannot say, I am sure.

Was it on the day before the election?—I should think it was, but I really cannot recollect.

Did you attend at a public house called Gutteridge's, on that occasion?—Yes, we did.

For what purpose was that house fixed upon?—For burgesses to go to after they polled.

Were they to be paid there?—They were.

Were you at Gutteridge's during the election?—I think I was once.

Who paid the men there?—A Mr. Harding.

He was a stranger in Stafford, I believe?—He was.

Did you receive any money during that election?—Yes, I did.

From whom did you receive it?—I believe from Mr. Harding.

More than once?—Yes, more than once; I cannot say how many times.

Do you remember what it was?—I cannot.

Did you receive 300 *l.*?—Probably I did.

How did you expend it?—In treating to the burgesses at different public-houses.

Did you account for that money to any person?—I do not recollect that I did.

Did you know a person by the name of Nixon who was active at that election?—Yes.

Is he alive or dead?—I do not know.

Did he live in Stafford?—No; he was a stranger there.

Were you in the room on the Monday morning of the election?—I was.

Were you applied to by persons whom you know to be voters there?—I was.

For what purpose did you refer any of them to Gutteridge's?—I really do not recollect if I did.

Did you make any statement to them about any money?—I did.

What was it?—I believe they were promised 2*l.* 10*s.* for a single vote, and 5*l.* for a plumper.

Mr. Whateley.] Do you know that of your own knowledge?—I promised it them.

Mr. Rushton.] Did you tell them where to go for it?—They knew where to go.

Did the price rise during the day?—Yes, it did.

Edwin Bostock,

5 July 1836.

What was the highest price allowed during that day?—I think 8*l.*

Was that for a double vote or a single vote?—A single vote.

Did you continue to make the distinction between a single vote and a split vote in the same proportion as at first?—Yes.

Eight pounds was the highest?—I think it was.

Can you tell what was the highest sum offered by yourself to any voters?—I think that was the highest during the poll.

After the poll was there not a higher offer?—I did not make a higher offer.

Was any higher offer made in your presence?—No.

Did the voter bring a ticket from the poll to Gutteridge's—a check?—No, I do not think they did.

How did they get paid then; on what authority; had they no certificate that they had voted?—They had not.

Were they accompanied by persons from the hustings?—I do not know that they were.

Who were the check clerks at that election?—I cannot recollect.

Who were the poll clerks?—I do not recollect that.

Do you remember seeing any tickets during that election?—I think I did; I cannot say positively.

Were those tickets giving at the polling booths?—I do not know.

In whose possession did you see those tickets?—I really cannot say now.

Do you recollect Mr. Tarlton being there?—Yes.

Had he those tickets?—I cannot now recollect that he had; probably he might.

How often in the day did you go to Gutteridge during that day?—I do not recollect going more than once.

Was Painter with Mr. Harding at the time?—No.

Had he the money on the table before him?—He had some money before him.

No voters were in the room at that period?—I think not.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

What has become of Tarlton?—I cannot say; I have not heard of him since.

Did you know him before?—No.

Did he appear to be a friend of Captain Gronow's?—He did.

And a friend of his brother, Mr. Gronow's?—No; Mr. Gronow was not there.

Who was the man Nixon you were talking of?—I believe he was an upholsterer in London.

Have you seen him lately?—No.

Have you seen him since the election?—Yes; I saw him since that election.

When?—When he came to give evidence in the House of Commons

In the year 1833?—Yes.

You have no reason to believe he is not in a state to come and give evidence now?—I really do not know.

If I understand you, you are only speaking of something which took place with respect to Captain Gronow's voters; you know nothing of any other voters?—No, of no other voters.

You have left Stafford now?—I have.

Where do you live now?—At Northampton.

How long have you left?—Six or eight months.

Were you at all engaged in the last election of 1835?—Yes, I was.

For whom?—For Captain Gronow.

Not for any of the other candidates?—No.

When did you last hear from Captain Gronow?—I think not since the election.

You have not seen him since?—No.

Did you see his brother then?—At the last election I did.

Did you learn from him where he lived?—I did not; somewhere in Wales, I understood.

Do you know whether in North or South Wales?—I do not.

Did you learn from him that he was a clergyman having a living?—I do not know that I learnt that from him; I think it was stated by Captain Gronow, and probably by myself.

You have not heard of his death or his being unable to travel?—No, I have not.

Do

Edwin Bostock.

5 July 1836.

Do you know that in 1832 there were a great many out-voters who voted in the election for Stafford?—Yes there were.

Persons who had left Stafford and resided in distant places, who came and voted?—Yes; their names were on the register, and they claimed to vote on that account.

By a Lord.] Persons living within the seven miles?—There were some that lived both beyond and within the seven miles that voted.

Mr. *Whateley.*] There were a good many living beyond the seven miles whose names being on the register came and voted?—Yes, I believe there were.

By a Lord.] Were they not objected to as voters?—No; they were on the register.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

How many?—I cannot say.

Three or five?—I have heard as many as a hundred.

Do you know anything about it?—I cannot say anything about it.

Do you know anything about the facts?—I did not take the trouble to ask that of them myself.

Do you know when they had ceased to reside in Stafford?—No, I do not.

You do not know whether they had ceased to reside half a year before or a year?—I only know they were not living in Stafford; some of them lived within seven miles, and some not.

You do not know whether they had ceased to live there before the register?—No, I do not.

By a Lord.] Do you know a single one of your own knowledge?—I cannot recollect at this moment, but by referring to the poll-book I could ascertain.

In point of fact you cannot take upon yourself to swear that a single person voted under those circumstances?—Not at this moment.

Can you take upon you to say that a single one so voted, without remembering the name?—Yes.

Of your own knowledge?—I did not see them vote, but they are registered upon the poll-book.

Do you know whether they had gone beyond seven miles?—Yes, I could ascertain that.

How do you know that?—It is impossible not to know where they resided; whether they were within the seven miles.

Did you go to the place where they lived?—I know they did not reside in Stafford.

How do you know they did not reside within seven miles?—Because they would state it themselves, that they did not reside within seven miles.

How many stated that to you?—Not one; but by common report.

You know this only by common report, not in any other way?—Certainly; I did not see them at those places.

From such information as you had, do you believe that many freemen who were not entitled to vote by law voted at that election?—Yes, I believe I did.

Do you know of your own knowledge that they were not entitled to vote?—I do not understand the law.

Do you believe there were many who voted under those circumstances?—I believe there were.

Was it not notorious in Stafford that there were a number of persons voting at that election, who, being freemen, were living beyond the limits which should have entitled them to registration?—Quite so; and that is the extent of my knowledge upon the subject.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *George White* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *George White.*

Mr. *Austin.*] WERE you, during the inquiry into the Stafford proceedings in the House of Commons, a clerk in the House of Commons?—Yes, I was.

Were you present at the inquiry?—I was.

As clerk of the Committee?—As clerk of the Committee of which Sir Thomas Fremantle was Chairman.

In what year?—One thousand eight hundred and thirty-three.

Do you recollect any tickets being produced there?—I do.

Mr. *George White.*

5 July 1836.

Did you arrange those tickets in a list?—I did.

Did you make out a list from the tickets, copying the tickets into that list?—Yes, and also, I think, making an alphabetical list.

Is that the list you made out? [*Showing it to the Witness*]—I can only say, having looked at the print instead of the manuscript, I should say it is the same.

The manuscript is burnt?—The manuscript, with the tickets, were sealed up by the Chairman, and deposited in my desk.

They have been burnt?—At all events I have not heard of their being found amongst the rest of the papers; I presume they were burnt.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

I understand you to say you made out a list from certain tickets which were produced before the House of Commons?—Before the Committee.

That is all?—Yes.

You do not mean to say you can identify the names there as those you made out from the tickets?—I can identify a great many of the names.

Can you point out any which you can identify; John Smith, perhaps?—No; I should take as peculiar the list of the Allens, on account of the number of them.

That is rather an odd reason; you find a good many persons of the name of Allen there, and there were a good many Allens in the tickets, and therefore that showed they were the same?—I have a general recollection of the list I see here, particularly showing the amount of tickets I made out; I was particularly desired to do so by the Chairman, and not even to suffer my deputy to do it.

I have not the least doubt you performed your duty, having known you of old; but looking at the list, can you take upon yourself to say with certainty it is a copy of the written list you made from the tickets?—I cannot undertake to say it is a copy; it would be the part, I apprehend, of the printer to do that.

All you mean is, you made out an accurate written copy from the tickets?—Yes.

There are some names you see in that list which correspond with some of those in the list you made out?—Yes.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Did you make out more lists than one?—I think only one; but I think the Chairman took it home for some purpose or other, and returned the tickets sealed up with my copy of the list.

Mr. *Whateley.*] He returned you a small packet sealed up; you did not know the contents of that packet?—No.

By a Lord.] You say you received the tickets back, and a list from Sir Thomas Fremantle?—The list.

Was the list sealed up as well as the tickets?—No; the list was the Appendix to go with the Report.

The list was returned to you not sealed up?—Yes.

What became of that list?—It was appended to the Report of the Committee, and goes to the House, and after that the Committee clerk has no knowledge of any of the circumstances.

You do know that the list you made out was appended to the Report, and was reported to the House?—I do; for I attached it to the Report.

Mr. *Austin* proposed to put in the list as printed.

Mr. *Whateley* submitted, that the proof of the identity of the list was not complete.

Mr. *Austin* stated, that he would supply further proof on a future day.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Thomas Stevenson* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows.

Mr. *T. Stevenson.*

Mr. *Austin.*] DO you reside at Stafford?—I do.

Did you reside there at the election in 1832?—I did not.

Were you at Stafford at that time?—Yes, I was in Stafford.

How came you to be in Stafford on that occasion?—I am connected with the trade of Stafford.

In

In what way?—A shoe manufacturer; a shoe dealer, at least.

How came you to go to Stafford upon that occasion?—I fancy I did not go purposely on that account; I believe I had been there for some weeks; but I cannot be positive as to that point.

At all events you found yourself at Stafford on the days of the election?—I was.

You took a part upon that occasion?—I did.

An active part?—Yes.

For Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

Among other things you attended at an inn called the Lion, or what had been an inn?—It was what had been an inn; I attended there.

For what purpose did you attend at the Lion?—I attended for the purpose of paying money at the Lion.

You have been asked that question before, and you gave a more explicit answer upon a former occasion; for what purpose did you attend there?—I do not know how I can give a more explicit answer; I say I attended there for the purpose of paying money.

What do you call paying money; to whom?—Paying money to the burgesses of Stafford.

At what time of the day did you begin your attendance?—It might be ten or eleven o'clock in the morning; I cannot tell exactly.

How long did you remain there?—For several hours.

Who was there besides yourself?—Mr. John Wynne.

Anybody else?—Other persons might pass to and fro in the course of the day; but I do not recollect any other person being established there.

You mean that you and Wynne had the conduct of the payment to the voters?—We had.

Describe to their lordships in what manner you regulated those payments?—Do you mean as to the amount paid to the voters?

As to the mode in which you made the payment?—I do not exactly recollect my former answer; but I know that we paid 2*l.* 10*s.* for a split vote, and 5*l.* for what we called a plumper.

Who arranged those prices?—I cannot speak as to the arrangement.

What caused you to pay 2*l.* 10*s.* and 5*l.* respectively?—We paid them because other parties were paying the same.

What caused you to pay those particular sums respectively?—They happened to be equal sums; that, perhaps, was the reason we decided upon them.

Why did you pay 2*l.* 10*s.* rather than 3*l.*, and 5*l.* rather than 6*l.*; you have answered that question before?—I do not know, I am sure.

How came you to know that was the sum the voters were to be paid?—It was the sum of course that we decided among ourselves.

When did you decide among yourselves that that was the proper sum to be paid?—Not till late in the morning we are speaking of.

Who were the persons that decided that?—Mr. John Wynne and myself; I cannot recollect who the parties were.

Have you ever heard of those sums being paid for single votes and split votes before in Stafford?—No.

Just recollect yourself?—I do not recollect such as that ever having been paid before.

You have been asked the question before, and you did not give the same answer to it then?—I have no wish to state anything at all incorrect.

I have no doubt you mean to be correct. Try and recollect yourself whether there was not some reason that induced you to pay 2*l.* 10*s.* and 5*l.*?—The only reason I can assign was, that the other parties had been paying; it had been previously settled by us, as friends of Captain Chetwynd, that no sum whatever should be paid.

When do you mean that that was settled?—On the previous night.

That you say had been deen determined before?—It was a kind of understanding from the commencement of the election that no money should be paid.

How was the thing begun?—I was not engaged in the commencement of the paying of the money.

You were there paying money the greater part of the day?—Yes.

Whilst you were there how were the payments conducted?—Persons came with scraps of paper, or something of that kind; and according as they had voted, whether a split vote or a plumper, the 2*l.* 10*s.* or the 5*l.* was paid.

Mr. *T. Stevenson.*

5 July 1836.

Are you sure they came with scraps of paper?—I believe they did; I believe something was given in the shape of scraps of paper.

Did the voters bring the scraps of paper themselves?—I believe some persons duly qualified were sent with them; but that I cannot speak to.

What do you understand by "duly qualified?"—Persons rather of a superior order; giving every man his ticket or card.

Were those persons so qualified acquainted with the burgesses?—Of course, those would be employed that had a proper knowledge of the burgesses.

Was that what you understood?—Yes.

When the burgesses were introduced were they paid?—Yes, they were.

According to what you found on the paper?—Yes.

When they were paid was any entry made in any book?—On scraps of paper.

What do you mean by scraps of paper?—It might be so; I wished to state there was very great confusion prevailed on the morning of the election; we were driven to it at the spur of the hour and the moment, and that was the system on which we acted; we had not time for any plan; there were bits of paper, or any thing else, on which the names were entered.

Were they sheets of paper?—No; scraps of paper, something torn from a sheet.

Do I understand you to say this was the regular course, that on the money being being paid the money was entered on a paper?—Yes.

Was anything entered on the paper besides the name?—The amount as well as the name.

By a Lord.] The papers were not sealed?—No; we had nothing sealed.

Mr. *Austin.*] Did this go on the second day as well as the first?—Yes.

How long on the second day?—Three or four hours, I should think.

The voters came, and money was paid in the same manner?—Exactly the same manner as before.

Did you know the voters yourself?—Many of them, I did.

Were the persons whom you knew all voters?—I saw none but what were voters.

There were none you knew that were not voters?—No.

How many persons were paid during the first and second day at the Lion?—I think I paid from 400 to 500.

You were not there all the time?—I was not there at the commencement.

Did you pay the whole of this 400 or 500 after the rate of 2*l.* 10*s.* and 5*l.*?—The whole, I believe, with one exception; that was a doorkeepeer or something of that kind.

With that exception, did you raise your price as to the others in the course of the day?—In no instance.

How much money did you pay?—I should think upwards of 1,000*l.* I paid myself of the money I have been speaking off.

From whom had you the money?—I had a considerable portion of it from Mr. Charles Dawson.

How much?—I think the greater part.

From whom else did you receive any?—Mr. Brutton.

Who is Mr. Brutton?—The governor of the county gaol.

Did he bring it you?—He gave me a check; I met him in the street.

What did you say to him?—He said, "Is the captain short of money?"

Meaning Captain Chetwynd?—Yes; Captain Chetwynd often went by the name of the Captain among his friends; I said, "Perhaps a little money might be useful;" and he said, "I have a little money at command, he shall be welcome to it;" and he gave me a check on one of the banks at Stafford.

For how much?—I forget now exactly.

One hundred pounds, 200*l.* or 300*l.*, or how much?—I think 300*l.* in the whole, but I cannot be positive to the whole.

You have told us that you had determined not to pay money the day before; were you ever in the grand jury room when voters for Captain Chetwynd were canvassed by Captain Chetwynd there?—I have no knowledge of the voters being canvassed.

You have seen the grand jury room?—Yes.

How long before the election were you in the grand jury room?—Some days.

How many?—It might be a week first.

Was Captain Chetwynd there?—I think upon one occasion he was.

Were any voters there?—Yes.

Mr. *T. Stevenson.*

5 July 1836.

Did you see Captain Chetwynd address himself to the voters or any of them?—Merely as a compliment, if he did it at all.

Did you see him address himself to the voters?—I did.

Did he pay them a compliment then?—I think he merely shook hands with them, or something of the kind.

What did he say?—He merely asked them as individuals, how they did.

Was not there a court near the grand jury room?—Yes.

The crown court?—Yes.

Did those voters, after they had received the compliment of Captain Chetwynd, go into the crown court?—Some of them did.

Do you know what took place after they got into the crown court?—I believe they had something in the shape of a ticket.

You know they had?—Well then, when I say, I believe it, of course they had it.

You know they had it?—Yes.

Was not that ticket equivalent to 10 *s.*?—I believe it was.

That was before you determined to pay no money?—Allow me to say to their lordships, those tickets to which I allude were given indiscriminately, whether friends or foes; given to the burgesses especially for the purpose of the families carrying on during the time of the election. I believe that is the fair interpretation of it. Men do not work at an election.

How many of those 10 *s.* tickets were given after the compliment was paid?—There were several hundreds.

Do not you happen to recollect the exact number?—I do not.

Did you never know the exact number given?—No, I never did, to the best of my recollection, the exact number.

How long was this distribution of tickets going on?—But a very short time previous to the election.

Was it notorious in the town at the time?—Of course, such a thing as that could not be done in a town like Stafford without being known.

That Captain Chetwynd was at the hall, and that the tickets were distributing?—I do not know that it would be well known that Captain Chetwynd was there.

But that the tickets were distributed?—Yes; that was the fact about which they would be most anxious.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

This giving of ticket money or tickets was not at the time of the canvass?—No.

The canvass was a perfectly different thing?—Perfectly so.

At the time of giving those tickets no application for votes or promises by voters was made by Captain Chetwynd?—To the best of my knowledge, no such thing.

Did you accompany Captain Chetwynd on his canvass?—Some days I did.

Was anything said by him, or by voters, or by any person on his behalf?—Not a word.

You said there was a great confusion in the Lion on Monday morning; to what was that owing?—Owing to the circumstance of there being no previous arrangement.

No previous arrangement as to what?—As to the paying money, or the arrangement of money matters.

It was never previously thought of or intended?—No.

But the contrary was intended?—Yes.

It was intended no money should be given?—It was intended no money should be given.

And that intention was not altered till some time on Monday morning?—It was not.

Was that after the polling had commenced?—Yes; after the polling had commenced.

Do you not know that a great many persons voted for Captain Chetwynd before this money arrangement was come to?—I believe numbers did; that is my belief.

At what time of day was it you went to the Lion?—I think from ten to eleven o'clock.

At that time there was great confusion, you say?—Very great.

Nothing was methodized, nothing arranged?—I have stated that no arrangement whatever had taken place.

When you state that you fancy that persons duly qualified brought those lists, do you know who those persons were?—They would be burgesses.

Mr. *T. Stevenson.*

5 July 1836.

Do you know that they were?—No.

Did you see those lists?—I think they were handed to me in most instances.

Did you know the handwriting?—No.

In fact there was as little arrangement in that as in anything else that morning?—It was one general confusion; if it was a system, I believe it was a perfect system of confusion.

You did the best you could on the spur of the moment?—Yes.

Was the money given on the spur of the moment?—Yes.

Was the idea of giving the money the idea of the moment?—Most certainly.

With whom did that idea originate?—I cannot state as to whom it originated with.

Do you believe it did not originate with Captain Chetwynd?—I do believe it did not.

Do you not know that it was his determination not to give money, as expressed by him?—I believe he had expressed it a few hours before the election, that he would rather lose his election than give money.

What those scraps of paper contained you do not know?—No, I do not.

Did you see the paper brought from the polling places?—I think most of them were handed to me.

With regard to putting down the names of persons who came to the Lion; did you see those papers?—I did not; I saw them afterwards, but not at the time.

You did not put down the names?—I paid the money, and Mr. John Wynne put down the names; I might put down a few, perhaps.

You have known Stafford for some time?—I have known it for upwards of 40 years.

At the time of the election in 1832 were there not a great number of respectable persons in Stafford who would not receive money in bribes?—Great numbers.

What number, in your opinion, would not receive bribes?—Several hundreds.

Is it not notorious that there were great numbers in Stafford who would not?—I should think it would be a libel on a great number of the respectable population of Stafford to suppose they would take a bribe.

So far as you did go with the paying the money are you not aware of a great number who did not receive?—I am perfectly aware of a great number who did not receive.

Had you anything to do with the election in 1835?—Not much.

You know the present constituency of Stafford?—Yes, very well.

Has it not undergone a great alteration since the election in 1832?—I should say a very great one.

The present constituency is not the same as it was in 1832?—I believe the constituency is very materially changed. I am very willing to believe, and I am sure of it, in fact, that a great part of the persons who received money did it partially in ignorance.

You say the constituency as it was in 1832 has undergone great change, and of those who remain of that constituency who received money, some, you think, in fact, would act in a better manner hereafter?—I have not the least doubt of it.

And that in the year 1835 they did act in a better manner?—Very much better. I was in Stafford during the whole of the election in 1835; I resided there then.

Do you know whether in the election in 1832 there were not a great many out-voters who voted?—To my knowledge a considerable number.

Persons residing beyond the distance of seven miles?—Many from Manchester; some from Birmingham and from Wolverhampton; many soldiers in the army, and persons who lived away and were not voters.

This was shortly after the Reform Bill?—Very shortly.

Such persons are now excluded?—They are excluded by law.

They are not on the present registry?—I do not mean to say they are not, but I think not; as a matter of course, I should think.

By a Lord.] Has not more attention been paid to the registration upon the last occasion than there was the first time after the Reform Bill passed?—I think they have been very correct as to the last registration.

But not so the first after the Reform Bill?—Not so particular as at the last.

If they had been so particular, would it have been possible for persons to have got on the register who lived at that distance from the town?—Of course there must have been inattention, or those persons could not have appeared on the list.

Re-examined

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin*.

Mr. *T. Stevenson*.

5 July 1836.

You say that out-voters voted at the election in 1832; do you know who the persons were individually?—I know one, who happened to be a servant of mine.

Do you know more than one?—I could not point out more than one; but I know the fact generally.

Do you know more than one individually?—I at the time knew numbers; one of them happened to be my own man; that made me point him out so particularly.

Did you know more than one, namely, this person?—I did; but I cannot recollect their names.

Can you recollect them now?—I cannot.

Is all your personal knowledge and recollection confined to your servant?—I should say not.

It is as to the person?—Yes.

How many persons might you recollect who were non-resident at the time of voting in the year 1832?—A very considerable number.

How many?—I should think 20 or 30; I will state how I know it.

As to those 20 or 30, you say that they were non-resident at the time they voted?—Yes.

What time of the year did they vote; when was the election?—Was it in December?—I think it was.

Can you tell me how long they had been non-resident in Stafford at the time when that election took place?—I cannot; it is certainly one on the register.

Can you tell me how long they had been non-resident in Stafford at the time when that election took place?—I cannot.

Is there anything you wish to explain?—I will just state, that, being one of the friends of Captain Chetwynd, I was applied to by those persons in order to have their coach expenses paid; I am certain by more than 20 or 30; some soldiers in the army; some from every direction; some from Liverpool; some from Manchester; some from Birmingham. I am certain as to these facts; and as to my own man; he had been a non-resident in Stafford I think for years.

As to that one man the fact is material. Can you undertake to say with respect to any of those who came from Birmingham or the other places you mention they had been non-resident in Stafford during any certain period of time?—I cannot.

You say that the idea of giving money did not originate with Captain Chetwynd?—I do.

With whom did it originate?—I am not prepared to say that.

From whom did you first hear it?—From the mouths of hundreds almost; that the other parties were giving money.

From whom did you first hear the idea of money being paid by Captain Chetwynd?—I am not prepared to answer that question.

Did you originate that idea?—I did not.

By whom were you told to pay money for Captain Chetwynd?—I was walking up the street, and a number of persons came to me, and said that the others were paying money, and giving a bad account; that very great confusion prevailed; and that unless I went down, Captain Chetwynd most probably would lose his election, or words to that effect.

Did you go down?—I did.

Do you mean to say you did not at the time know that money was being paid for Captain Chetwynd?—The impression upon my mind is that money was about to be paid; but I do not think I knew it was being paid; but that was long after the polling commenced.

You say there was an impression upon your mind that money was about to be paid?—Yes.

How came your mind to receive that impression?—I heard it from the mouths of hundreds of burgesses, that the other parties were paying money.

At what hour was it first you had an impression on your mind that money was about to be given for Captain Chetwynd?—At the hour of 11 o'clock in the day, when I went down.

From whence did your mind receive that impression?—From the public voice.

Do you mean to say, from the public voice you heard that Captain Chetwynd was about to give money?—No; I heard that from his friends.

From whom?—I cannot tell. I have no wish to keep anything back; but those are things of which I made no specific remarks.

Mr. *T. Stevenson.*

5 July 1836.

Do you mean to say you did hear it from some person, but you cannot, at this distance of time, recollect their names?—Yes.

Do you know whether Captain Chetwynd has paid the money to Dawson?—I do not.

Or to Brutton?—I do not.

Did you ever hear from him whether he has paid it or not?—I have not.

Had you any conversation with him after the money had begun to be paid; do you know whether he was aware that the money was being paid for votes?—During the election, do you mean?

At any time?—I have no recollection of any such conversation with Captain Chetwynd.

From any communication with Captain Chetwynd, do you know that he knows that money was paid for votes?

Mr. *Whateley* objected to this mode of examination; submitting, that the witness had not given his evidence in such a way as to authorize such examination by the counsel calling him.

The Counsel were informed, that the witness did not appear, upon this particular subject, disposed to give all the information in his power to the House, and that there appeared to be no objection to refreshing his memory.

Mr. *Austin.*] From any communication you had with Captain Chetwynd, do you not know that Captain Chetwynd was aware that money was being paid for his election?

Mr. *Whateley* objected to the question as not arising out of the cross-examination.

Mr. *Austin* was heard in support of the question.

The Counsel were informed that the question might be put.

Mr. *Austin.*] You have told us that Captain Chetwynd had said he had rather lose his election than give money?—Yes, I have.

Do not you believe, from communication with Captain Chetwynd at any time since the election, that Captain Chetwynd was aware that money was being paid for his election?—I am upon my oath. I do not know that it is a subject I have spoken to Captain Chetwynd about from that day to this, nor do I know that I had ever seen Captain Chetwynd before those two days.

Do you not know, from communication with Captain Chetwynd, that he was aware that money had been applied to his election?—I should say at once I should think it could not have happened without Captain Chetwynd's knowledge, to a certainty.

You have been asked whether it is not notorious that there were voters in Stafford who did not receive payment; is it not notorious that there were voters in Stafford who did?—Certainly.

To what extent?—I have stated, I think, that I paid 400 or 500 myself.

What was Captain Chetwynd's whole number, do you know?—I think between 700 and 800.

Seven or eight hundred?—Not more, I think.

Was it 750?—I think something between the two.

If you take that number, how many of Captain Chetwynd's own voters voted without the receipt of money?—Of course upon that there would be a very considerable number; but there are a great many respectable individuals in Stafford who seldom vote at elections.

You paid yourself nearly 500?—Yes, I paid between 400 and 500.

You were there only part of the day?—I was not there at the commencement; but I arrived there not very long afterwards.

Did you look at the list yourself, so as to cast it up?—I never did.

Have you the means of saying how many were paid besides those you paid yourself?—I have not.

Was it not notorious in Stafford that the great mass of Captain Chetwynd's voters were paid?—The majority of them assuredly were.

A very great majority?—A considerable majority.

Was

Mr. *T. Stevenson.*

5 July 1836.

Was it not notorious in Stafford that a considerable majority of Mr. Blunt's were paid?—Equally.

Was it not notorious in Stafford that a considerable majority of Captain Gronow's votes were paid?—Assuredly.

You have been asked as to the change in the constituency; do you know what the number of 10 *l.* householders now is as compared with formerly?—Perhaps one-third or one-fourth.

Is it a greater or a less proportion than that on the register of 1832?—I should think not materially altered, but that there would be a greater proportion of 10 *l.* householders.

It was not materially altered?—It could not be materially altered in that time.

By a Lord.] As to those pieces of paper that were brought to you, was nothing written upon them?—Only the men's names.

Are you quite sure that in the payments you made, with the exception of one who you believe was a doorkeeper, the rest were paid 2 *l.* 10 *s.* for single votes, and 5 *l.* for double votes?—I am positive of that.

There was no variation in the payment during the election?—We commenced as we ended.

You stated, that during the progress of the election, Captain Chetwynd must have known that money was paid; do you mean to say he must have known it at that time, or that he must have known it subsequent to the election?—I have no knowledge as to whether Captain Chetwynd did actually know it or not at that time; I only say, that from his being in Stafford at the time it is not scarcely likely that a sum so serious would be paid without his having some knowledge of it.

You say he refused to authorize the payment of money before the election took place?—Yes.

You say that money was distributed on his behalf during the election; did he know that during the election, or not till it was over?—I cannot speak to that fact, but I should think he might have a knowledge of it before the determination of the election.

Had you any conversation with Captain Chetwynd, either during the election or since the election with reference to the election?—I do not recollect that I had; it is so long back.

Has anything passed between you and him to give you any reason for saying that he did or did not know that money was paid on his behalf?—I conceive that he had the knowledge.

Has any conversation passed with you to inform you that he had that knowledge?—No, not at all.

Has he ever expressed any surprise in your hearing at his having discovered that his voters had been paid?—I do not recollect that he has.

Who first told you to go down to the White Lion?—Some persons I met in the street.

Friends of Captain Chetwynd?—Of course they were.

As soon as you went down you began paying?—As soon as I possibly could.

Who gave you the money to pay?—I had the money from Mr. Charles Dawson.

Who is Mr. Charles Dawson?—A druggist in Stafford.

When did you receive that money?—On the day of voting.

Before you went down to the White Lion?—I received it at different periods.

When did you receive the money which you began paying?—I suppose the first half hour after I went down.

Who gave you that money?—Mr. William Dawson.

Did he give it you, or did you ask him for it?—As far as I recollect I sent a confidential messenger, or went to him myself.

How much did he send you in the first instance?—I cannot tell.

You began paying the people that money?—Yes.

You understood it was Captain Chetwynd's money?—I knew the money came from Mr. Dawson, and I knew he was a friend of Captain Chetwynd.

Did you pay any of the 10*l.* householders any of this money?—I have not a recollection; I think not more than one.

How many other 10*l.* householders received money?—I do not mention that as a fact; I only recollect one person who was a 10 *l.* householder I paid money to.

That is the only one?—That is the only one I can recollect at the present moment.

Mr. *T. Stevenson.*

5 July 1836.

Are you a voter yourself?—Yes.

As a freeman or a householder?—As a householder; I am a burgess as well, which was as good, having lived in Manchester a considerable portion of my life.

You are on the register as a householder?—Yes.

Do you know the proportion of 10*l.* householders at that time?—I do not; a great many of the 10*l.* householders were burgesses, and many of the first men in the county.

You were at the last election for Stafford?—I was a resident there at that time.

There was none of this bribing going on at that time?—Not on the part of Captain Chetwynd.

Was there on any part, except Captain Gronow?—I believe not a single pound was paid, except by Captain Gronow.

There was a great deal less bribery?—There was.

There were 5*s.* and 10*s.* tickets?—I cannot speak to the tickets; I was unwell at the time.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Thomas Brutton* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *T. Brutton.*

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you the governor of the gaol in the borough of Stafford?—I am.

Do you know a person of the name of Stevenson, the last witness?—I do.

Did you give him any money during the election?—I did not at the last election.

During the election of 1832?——Yes.

How much?—Two hundred and fifty pounds.

By a check on the bank?—By a check on the bank.

Have you been repaid that money?—I have not; I have had a security given to me by Captain Chetwynd, but it is not paid.

Did you communicate to Captain Chetwynd that you had advanced the money to Mr. Stephenson?—I did not.

When did he give you a security for it?—I think it was in the month of January following; I cannot be positive.

Following the election?—Yes, it was following the election, but the exact date I cannot remember.

How came he to give you a security?—I mentioned that I had advanced the money for the payment of the bills at the inns.

Did you advance the money for the payment of bills at the inns?—I did.

Specifically?—Specifically.

Did Stevenson ask for it for that purpose?—He did not; it was a pure offer of my own.

And you have since received a security?—I have.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Do you remember whether the polling had commenced some time before you advanced this money to Stevenson?—I believe the polling had commenced an hour or two on the second day.

This was late in the election, when you thought that there might be money wanted for the expenses of the public-houses, that you offered it to Mr. Stevenson?—It was; it was twelve o'clock or soon after on the second day; I had previously heard that there were some great expenses at the inn, and I then asked Mr. Stevenson whether a little money would be of service to pay the expenses.

The election was nearly concluded?—That I cannot say; I believe it continued three or four hours afterwards.

Was that the reason that you offered this money, because you thought that at that time there must be considerable money to be paid for public-houses and so forth?—I had heard it stated that there were great expenses at the inns amongst Captain Chetwynd's friends; he was very popular at the time, and an intimation was given that the parties expected to be paid, and that was my reason.

Captain Chetwynd was a gentleman extremely popular in Stafford?—Yes.

And a great many people called there?—Yes.

Which occasioned great expense?—Yes.

Was that your reason for offering the money on that account?—My reason was to support Captain Chetwynd's election.

He

Mr. *T. Brutton.*

5 July 1836.

He is a gentleman of high family connexion in the town?—Yes; being a neighbour, and a brother of the late chairman of the quarter sessions, I was induced to take his part in promoting his election.

How the money was employed you know nothing?—I know not.

This was a voluntary offer on your part, without any previous application from Captain Chetwynd, or any of his friends?—It was.

By a Lord.] When did you make this offer?—It was about twelve o'clock on the second day.

What day did the election end?—I believe, as far as I recollect, it was on the Wednesday or the Tuesday.

At what time of the day?—I think at four o'clock; the time prescribed by the Act.

Did it go on to four?—Yes, I think so.

The election was not over when you made this offer?—Certainly not.

Where did you make it?—At the entrance of the George Hotel gateway, where Captain Chetwynd's friends met for the purpose of securing the election.

What passed between you and Stevenson?—I addressed myself to Mr. Stevenson after I heard there had been great expenses at the inn, that I thought it would be an accommodation to Captain Chetwynd; and making that observation, I said I had some money at the bank, if 200*l.* or 300*l.* would be of any service; he said he thought it might, but he would let me know. Shortly afterwards he said, "If you can let us have a little, do so;" I said, "I will draw a check;" and I drew a check for 250*l.* What was done with it I know no more than your lordships.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[Then *John Wynne* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

John Wynne.

Mr. *Austin.*] WHAT are you?—A shoe manufacturer.

Do you live at Stafford?—Yes.

And lived there in 1832?—Yes.

You took an active part in that election?—Yes.

For Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

Were you a member of Captain Chetwynd's committee?—Captain Chetwynd had no committee.

You took good care to have no committee?—Took good care; I do not understand a committee. Captain Chetwynd had plenty of good warm friends.

But no committee?—Not as I know of. I am sure he had no committee.

Of all those good warm friends did any of them take the trouble to manage his election for him?—Yes, every one.

For the purpose of managing that election did they ever go to any inn at Stafford?—Yes.

What inn did they go to?—The George.

Were you ever at the George?—Yes, frequently.

And I suppose they discussed the means of carrying on the election, did they not?—Of course the men tried to do their best to secure the return of Captain Chetwynd.

And discussed the means by which that success might be secured?—I do not understand you.

Were there more than one there?—Yes; perhaps twenty.

Did you talk about the election?—Yes, certainly.

And about the method of carrying it on?—I cannot answer that question; I do not understand what you mean by it.

You mean to swear that that was not a committee?—I mean to swear that I did not consider that I was one of the committee, or that there was any committee at all. Every one did their best for the cause of Captain Chetwynd.

Do you mean to swear that that was not Captain Chewynd's committee?—I swear that I do not know whether it was a committee or not. I do not consider that there was any committee whatever; that they were all friends of Captain Chetwynd that were there.

You never called it a committee and never called it a committee-room?—Not to my knowledge.

Did you never hear any body call it the committee-room?—No.

John Wynne.

5 July 1836.

You were at another public-house; you and Lloyd were there?—In a public-house, no it was not a public-house.

Were you and Mr. Lloyd at any place in Stafford?—No, it was not at Stafford, but Forbridge.

Is not it near to Stafford?—Yes; as near as Westminster is to London; across the bridge.

What was the name of the house at Forbridge?—The Golden Lion.

And there you began to pay money for Captain Chetwynd's friends?—Yes.

When did you first go to the Golden Lion?—Upon the first day's poll.

How early?—I should say it was after dinner.

What time of the day?—From perhaps twelve to one or two o'clock; it was after dinner; it was P. M.; it was not in the morning.

What time of the day?—I should say perhaps one or two o'clock.

Be so good as to recollect more accurately, and tell what time of the day you went to the Lion?—I cannot tell to certainty; I think it was after dinner; we will say from half-past one to two o'clock.

Where do you come from now?—From Stafford.

Where have you been to this morning; have you dined to-day?—Yes.

How long ago?—Two or three hours since.

Mind and attend to the questions, and answer them. Did you find Lloyd there at the Lion when you went?—Yes.

What was Lloyd doing?—Lloyd was either paying or putting the names down, I cannot tell which. There was him and another man, John Kinderdine.

What is Lloyd?—A shoe manufacturer.

Did you see him paying money when you went in?—Yes, they were paying; either him or Kinderdine.

To whom were they paying?—To men.

To what men?—To burgesses.

Who was paying, he or Kinderdine?—I really cannot tell; one was paying and the other was putting down; I cannot tell which.

What was the other putting down?—Putting down names.

Anything besides?—He was putting down names.

And sums?—And sums.

What was he putting them down upon?—Upon a sheet of white paper.

A large sheet of paper like that? [*A foolscap sheet.*]—Yes; not letter-paper.

How much letter paper was there there?—Perhaps two or three sheets, or one or two; I cannot tell.

And an ink-stand?—And an ink-stand.

Did you commence paying when you got there?—I did not pay; I put the names down.

Who went on paying after you got there?—Mr. Stevenson.

How soon did he come in after you?—I think we went down together; he might be there before me; but I put the names down, and he paid the money.

Did you continue that all day?—Yes.

You writing the names down, and he paying the money?—Yes.

As the men came in did they bring the tickets with them, or a scrap of paper?—At first they did.

How long did they continue doing so?—Not long.

What took place after that?—Those that came had the money, though there was not any ticket or paper whatever. That I will swear solemnly. I gave some small bits of paper, perhaps two inches long, and perhaps four or five names down upon some, and then there was no paper afterwards, as I saw.

How long did you continue writing down the names upon the sheets of paper?—Perhaps two or three hours.

Did you continue writing their names after they had ceased bringing the slips of paper?—Oh yes.

How did you get their names?—I knew most of them; I knew them by sight.

I believe you know the burgesses pretty well in Stafford?—Yes, pretty well.

Then when they came you wrote their names down from your own knowledge of them?—Yes.

What did you do in case you did not know the men?—I think I know most of the men in Stafford.

Probably

John Wynne.

5 July 1826.

Probably you went there on account of your knowledge of the burgesses of Stafford; is not that so; did you not go to the Lion on account of your knowledge of the burgesses?—Yes, I believe that was true.

And I believe you had reason to know them from former experience in election matters?—No, I think not. I believe you cannot find that.

Was it so?—No.

How did you know most of the burgesses?—Because I lived in the town. I was born in the town. I hope I may die there. They are my neighbours, most of them.

At the end of the first day did you cast up the sheet of paper?—Well, I believe I cast up to see whether the money was right.

And how did you ascertain, after you had it cast up, that the money was right?—How did I ascertain?

You cast it up for the purpose of seeing whether the money was right; how did you calculate; how did you know how much money had been given?

By a Lord.] Did you cast it up to see whether the tokens were right or the sums that had been given?—I cannot swear whether I cast up the first day.

Mr. *Austin.*] Did you cast it up on the second day?—Yes.

At the end of the second day?—Yes.

For the purpose of seeing whether the figures you had on the paper corresponded with the sums paid?—Yes.

Then did it come right?—Yes, within a pound or two.

Who told you it was right?—No one.

But you did not pay the money yourself?—No.

How did you know it was right?—Money was lying on the table, the same as if it was here.

You knew how much was on the table?—It was put down how much it was, and the money tallied, late at night the second day, within a pound or ten shillings.

How many names did you put down during your two days attendance?—I should think from four to five hundred.

How much did you pay altogether?—I cannot tell.

After what rate did you pay them?—Two pounds ten shillings and five pounds.

How much did that make altogether?—I could soon tell that; but it is impossible for me to say the number of plumpers there were. I have never seen the paper since I wrote it.

But you cast it up?—Yes.

Do you mean to say that you cannot say whether it was 1,000*l.* or 2,000*l.*?—Nothing like 2,000*l.*; from 400*l.* to 500*l.* at 2*l.* 10*s.* and 5*l.*

Will you swear that the sum was not 1,800*l.* altogether?—That I was putting down and paying?

Yes. Will you swear that after casting up the paper you did not ascertain that the sum was 1,800*l.*?—It is impossible for me to say.

Do not cast it up with your fingers?—Can I pretend to recollect three or four years since? I give a straightforward answer; I wish to keep nothing back. I say that 2*l.* 10*s.* and 5*l.* was all that was paid, with the exception of one man that had 5*s.*

What did you do with the pieces of paper?—I went and took them to Mr. Dawson.

The sheets?—Yes; there were two sheets of paper.

You are certain that they were sheets of writing paper?—Yes; they were writing paper.

You took them to Dawson?—Yes.

Did you give them to Dawson?—Yes; I left them at his shop, or gave them to him.

Do you know where the money came from?—No, I do not.

From Dawson; do you know that?—Well, I mean to say that I never had any thing to do with the money; nothing at all.

Who produced the money?—Mr. Stevenson generally brought the money.

Do you know whether he got it from Dawson?—I cannot say.

Why did you carry the sheets to Dawson?—I left them there.

How came you to leave them at Dawson's?—I understood that Mr. Dawson supplied some of the money that Mr. Stevenson had on the second day.

It is very odd that you should not answer the question before?—I told you that I did not have the money.

John Wynne.

5 July 1836.

And on that account you carried the sheets to Mr. Dawson?—I did.

Have you never seen the sheets since?—I have not, I declare, from the time of the second day's poll.

They were in your own handwriting?—Most of them were.

Who wrote the others?—Either Lloyd or Kinderdine.

Then I understand you to say, that when you came, Lloyd or Kinderdine, whichever it was, gave you the writing, and you began?—Yes, I took their place and carried it on to the end.

Were you ever in the grand jury room during the canvass time, some days or weeks before this; do you recollect the canvass?—Yes, I was there.

Did you see Captain Chetwynd canvassing the voters there?—No.

He was not there?—I say he was there.

Did you see him canvass the voters?—I do not think he went there to canvass the voters; he might have said, as a person went out of the grand jury room, "How do you do; shall I have the pleasure of your vote?" and that is all; and if he said "Very well," that was one.

Did the voter not pass into the great court?—Yes.

And did he not get a ticket for 10*s.* in the great court?—I believe he did.

How came you to go to the Lion?—I think there was a communication that I was wanted at the Lion.

Where did that communication come from?—I am sure I cannot tell; somebody came and said, "Mr. Wynne, you are wanted at the Lion;" and I went there, and found that it was as I have told you before, that I took the place of those gentlemen.

Who made the communication?—I cannot tell; I swear I cannot.

How came you to hit upon Mr. Stevenson?—I really do not know.

Was that by accident?—It might be.

Had you met Mr. Stevenson before at the room where all the friends of Captain Chetwynd met?—Yes, many of them; scores of them.

About that election at the time of that election?—Certainly I had. Mr. Stevenson was a warm friend of Captain Chetwynd as there were many a score there—hundreds; they were not ashamed who came into that room; there was nothing like mystery going on, I am sure.

Was the money slack during the last day; did the money slacken; was it exhausted at any time during the second day?—I do not know whether it was the first or second.

Did you send for any more at any time?—Yes.

Whom did you send?—We were not prepared.

By whom did you send?—I cannot say; it was said to somebody in the room, "We have very little money, you had better fetch a little more."

Where did you tell him to go to?—There were plenty of men who had 10*l.* or 20*l.* in their pockets that would soon give it.

Do you mean to swear that anybody who had 10*l.* or 20*l.* in their pocket did give it?—They would advance it.

Did they do it?—Yes.

Name a person, except Mr. Dawson and except Mr. Brutton, who advanced money?—I think Mr. John Kinderdine Shaw advanced some, but he was paid again.

Who paid him again?—I do not know.

How much did he advance?—I do not know; I had nothing to do with money matters.

Did you advance anything?—No, not a farthing; I was never asked such a thing. Indeed I was not rich enough to advance money for elections.

Cross-examined by Mr. Whitmore.

When was it that you were in the grand jury room; how long before the election?—I cannot tell; it was perhaps two or three months before the election.

Do not you know that it was in the beginning of November?—I really cannot tell; it was before the election some time.

Before there was a vacancy. There was no vacancy for the borough at that time, was there? Parliament was sitting, was it not?—I really cannot tell that.

At any rate it was two or three months before the election?—Yes; I should say so, at least.

When you went to the Lion you said that Lloyd and Kinderdine were there?—Yes.

Were

John Wynne.

5 July 1836

Were they as well acquainted with the burgesses as you were?—No.

Then persons might have come there and have received money from them without being burgesses?—Yes.

Do you know by whom those pieces of paper were written which were brought?—I do not.

You say that those bits of paper were brought only at first?—I only saw them for an hour or two; not afterwards.

After that any person that came received money?—Yes.

You had no means of knowing whether he had voted?—Not at all; only by his own word.

So long as the pieces of paper lasted did they state for whom the person that brought them voted?—No. I saw the papers, and they had merely the name.

They might be written by any person?—Yes.

By the persons that brought them?—Yes.

You could not tell for whom they had voted?—No.

You say that you left those sheets of paper at Mr. Dawson's shop, or gave them to him?—They went to the house; if I did not see him I left them at the shop.

Whether they ever got into Dawson's own possession you cannot tell?—I could not swear whether I left them in his own hands or not.

Did you look at those papers which were written by either Lloyd or Kinderdine before you went to the Lion?—Before I went I did not know that there was anything of the kind.

When you went to the Lion were there not some written?—Yes.

Did you look at them?—No; they might have come over again.

You never compared them with persons that came?—Not at all. I mean to say I wish to speak the truth.

There was a good deal of confusion?—Yes.

And it was never expected that money would be wanted?—Not a farthing.

You were a good friend of Captain Chetwynd's?—Yes.

You took an interest in all the preparations for his election?—Yes; in going round the town canvassing for him.

And it was never expected that the money would be required?—No; and there would never have been any paid if it had not been paid by the other party first.

And when you went to the Lion it was one or two o'clock in the day?—Half past twelve or one o'clock; the poll commenced at nine o'clock.

What sort of persons were they that came to the Lion when you were there?—They were mostly burgesses.

Were they those that you would call respectable persons?—Well, I do not think they could be very respectable to go and receive the money.

The lower class?—If you come to the broad acceptation of the term it is not very respectable to receive money.

They were working men?—Oh yes.

In your opinion, are there many that would not receive money for voting in Stafford?—I think the last election is a good proof on that head. I wish to state this before your lordships, that till that election I really believe that many that went there never thought that there was any harm in receiving a little money; but there has been a very great change for the better, I am happy to say, which proves that which I will swear, that not one man who has ever voted for Captain Chetwynd ever received a bribe, or a promise to receive a bribe, for the last election, but gave their votes purely and honestly, and would do it over again.

Captain Chetwynd headed the poll in 1835; what was his number?—He was 100 or more before the others.

Four hundred or five hundred had he not?—He had 456; I think 456 were the numbers; I only wish to say this to your lordships, that I have heard several Stafford people——

Never mind what you have heard; do you think the constituency has improved since 1832?—Yes; it is a positive fact that 456 burgesses voted for Captain Chetwynd without asking for anything, and nobody expecting a farthing.

And that will be the case again?—Yes; they will be all pure in the next election, if you will give it them. I know that plenty of men have said, that if ever there is the privilege, and they do hope that there will be, of voting again, that whenever a person comes forward, and wishes to become a candidate for the borough of Stafford, that they will ascertain particularly whether he means to bribe or give any thing, because if he does they will never vote for him. I declare that

John Wynne.
5 July 1836.

upon my oath, and I think it is general; and I hope there is not one man that will not do the same.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till Thursday next, at Three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Jovis, 7° Julii, 1836.

THE order of the day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled, "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their petition;

Counsel were called in.

Then *Charles Dawson* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Charles Dawson.
7 July 1836.

Mr. *Austin.*] ARE you a resident in the borough of Stafford?—Yes.

Are you a druggist there?—Yes.

Did you take any part in the proceedings of the election of 1832?—I did.

An active part?—Not a very active part; I was only solicited to pay the bills. I took upon me to pay the bills.

For Captain Chetwynd?—For Captain Chetwynd.

Did you canvass with him?—I went round with him the first time he went round.

Was any money given to the burgesses to drink upon that occasion?—Why, there was a shilling or two given now and then, but it was more to the women, I think, than to the men, as far as I recollect.

How many shillings were given?—I cannot positively undertake to say.

About how many?—I cannot say.

You know what I mean; was it commonly given or not?—Oh, no; occasionally given.

That was the first time he went round?—Yes.

Were you in Stafford when Captain Chetwynd came the second time?—Yes.

Did he canvass in the Town-hall?—No; I do not recollect that.

Was he in the grand jury room?—Yes.

Is that in the Town-hall?—Yes; but he did not canvass there.

He was in the grand jury room?—He was.

Did you see any burgesses come into the grand jury room upon that occasion?—A good many.

A great many?—A good many.

Did Captain Chetwynd speak to them?—He merely asked them how they did; he bowed to some, and some he spoke to.

Where did the burgesses go to after that?—They went into the crown court.

How much did they get in the crown court?—They got 10*s.* a piece, I believe.

You say you paid some money, is that so?—Paid the money, merely giving the women a shilling now and then occasionally.

Did you not afterwards pay money?—No.

Did you receive money?—I drew money out of the bank.

By whose authority did you do that?—I suppose it was placed there by Captain Chetwynd; but I had the authority to draw it out; my signature was sufficient to draw it out.

Were you authorized to do that by Captain Chetwynd?—Yes, I believe I was, but I cannot say who authorized me; I cannot possibly say that Captain Chetwynd authorized me.

Did Captain Chetwynd know that you transacted that part of the business?—Of course he would.

Did

Charles Dawson.

7 July 1836.

Did he know it?—I cannot take upon me to say that he did.

Do you know who placed the money at the bankers?—No, I cannot.

Have you any notion whose money it was?—No.

Who put it to your account?—It was not put to my account; I had authority to draw the checks.

Who gave you the authority?—I believe Captain Chetwynd; I went to the bank, and I believe it was authorized by him that I should do that.

How came the banker to acknowledge your checks?—I suppose by his authority.

Who told you that the banker would honour your checks?—I cannot say; I do not know; Captain Chetwynd went over to the bank for the express purpose.

Did you go with him to the bank?—I believe not.

Did you see any body at the bank?—Mr. Salt.

Is he a partner at the bank?—Yes.

Did you make any arrangement with him?—Nothing more than I was authorized to draw out a certain sum.

In favour of Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

Did you draw occasionally?—I did.

How many checks?—I cannot say the number of checks.

What did you do with the money which was produced from those checks?—I paid a great number of bills with it.

What else?—The other part was given to Mr. Wynne, I believe, and Mr. Stevenson.

Did you give it to Wynne and Stevenson yourself?—I believe I brought it into the room to them, or somebody else took it; but there was such confusion.

What room did you go to?—Into a room in the George.

Not the committee-room?—There was no committee-room.

It was in the room of the George, where the friends of Captain Chetwynd met?—Yes.

To conduct the election?—Yes; we met there of course.

To conduct the election?—I do not know of conducting the election; we did the best we could for Captain Chetwynd.

You met in that room?—Not in any express room.

You met in the George in some room, for the purpose of doing the best you could for Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

Was that for the purpose of conducting the election?—There were so many went in and went out that there was no substantial party.

Was the election conducted at all; was it managed at all, by anybody?—I paid the bills, and I believe that was the best part of it; his friends came in and out; there was no special meeting at any particular time.

Did Stevenson give you any acknowledgment for the money, or Wynne?—I think they gave me one.

Have you ever looked for it?—Yes; I have found nothing.

You cannot find it?—No.

What did you do with the acknowledgment?—I am sure I cannot say; as soon as ever the election was over I gave all the accounts up to Captain Chetwynd; all that I had in my possession.

What was the amount of all the checks that you drew?—I cannot possibly say.

Do I understand you to say that you received no money or checks yourself from any other place, or from any person?—I received checks from the district bank as well as the other bank.

Who gave you those checks?—Mr. Edmund Birch; I do not know whether they were drawn by Captain Chetwynd or not.

You have been examined as to this before; did you receive no check from Captain Chetwynd?—I cannot take upon myself to say whether Captain Chetwynd gave them to me, or they were sent to me.

Then you do not recollect who gave them to you?—I cannot possibly say.

How much had you altogether?—I think I had three checks out of the district bank.

How many checks had you from any other source?—I cannot possibly say how many I had.

What sum did you receive in money from any hand or place?—I am sure I cannot take upon myself to say the money I received from the bank.

You were the chief paymaster?—I drew checks.

Charles Dawson.

7 July 1836.

You were the chief paymaster?—I paid all the bills.

Had you not the management of the money part of the election?—I had, as far as drawing it out, but other hands had equal access to it as myself.

Did anybody receive money for the details of the election except through your hands?—Yes, I believe Mr. Stevenson did, through Mr. Brutton.

Independently of that sum from Mr. Brutton, did anybody receive any money for the details of the election except from you; do you know that of your own knowledge?—I cannot say.

Were you you not principally engaged as paymaster?—I undertook to pay the bills.

And you also gave sums to Stevenson and to Wynne?—Yes, they had money from me.

That having been your position at that election, do you mean to say that you cannot say how much money you received for the purposes of that election?—I am sure I could not say what sum I received.

Mr. *Whateley.*] The accounts will show?—Yes.

Mr. *Austin.*] I want to get from your recollection something like an account of the sums of money received for the purposes of that election?—I am sure I cannot state; I could not charge my recollection.

Not within hundreds of pounds?—No, I could not within a few hundreds.

Did you receive 2,000*l.*?—I think I did not altogether.

Did you receive 1,800*l.*?—I might have received from 1,700*l.* to 1,800*l.*, but the bank books will show that.

Try to recollect?—I cannot possibly recollect, the thing was done so much in confusion; I had not the checks in my possession for a minute before they were taken away, and I have taken no minutes of them, except what was given for the banker.

Did you keep no account of those?—I kept an account for the time being, till I gave an account of what had been expended.

That is all you had?—Yes.

Will you undertake to say that you did not receive 1,800*l.*?—I cannot say.

You do not think 2,000*l.*?—No.

You went to the Lion, did you not?—I did.

You saw Stevenson there?—Yes.

You knew what was going on?—I conjectured what was going on; I did not see it going on.

You did not see them paying voters?—I did not see them pay, I was not there a minute.

Did you see Stevenson there?—Yes, and Wynne too.

Did you see money upon the table? Yes.

I suppose you had no doubt of what was going on?—I had not much doubt of what was going on, but I did not see it done.

Did you receive any sheets of paper from Mr. Wynne afterwards?—I believe I did, but that I cannot undertake to say whether I received them from Mr. Wynne; they were slips of papers, not sheets.

Were they produced before the Committee of the House of Commons?—I believe they were; I have not them.

But you believe they were produced before that Committee?—I believe they were; I have heard so.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Did you see them before the Committee of the House of Commons?—No, I did not.

Mr. *Austin.*] How did they did come into your possession?—They were given to me by, I believe, Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Wynne; I cannot exactly say who gave them to me, not positively.

You believe by Stevenson and Wynne, but you do not undertake to say positively?—I cannot; they were left on the table, and I do not know whether they gave them me in my own possession or not.

How long had you them in your own possession?—Not many days.

What became of them?—A man of the name of Biddulph took them, and I never saw them after they got out of my possession.

How did they go out of your possession?—Biddulph had them; I wanted to see the amount, so that I might give an account of my stewardship.

To whom did you apply for that purpose?—I did not apply to any person.

How

How came they to you?—They brought them, first one, and then the other, I suppose.

Had you made application for them?—No.

Did not you give them money, and they brought you the account?—They did not give me the account altogether, and they gave me each an acknowledgment on a piece of paper, which I never took any notice of in the hurry of electioneering; I never knew the amount; I took it for granted what they said they had received.

By a Lord.] You recollect you are upon your oath?—Yes, and I should say nothing but what is strictly true.

The oath is to speak the whole truth?—I speak as far as I can.

Mr. *Austin.*] How long had you these papers?—I think not many days, I cannot say how many.

What was done with them?—They were given to William Biddulph to copy altogether, to see what was the amount altogether.

Those sheets were given to William Biddulph?—Yes, the slips of paper.

How long might they be?—Some that length [*the length of his hand*] and some others.

Might there be a whole sheet among them?—There were several pieces; I cannot say.

Will you undertake to say that there was not a whole sheet among them?—No.

How many sheets of paper were there?—I cannot say; I never counted the pieces; I cannot recollect.

Did you inspect them?—No, I never looked them over.

Do you know William Dudley?—I do.

Did you see him with Biddulph?—Yes.

Was he with Biddulph when the papers were taken away from you?—They were given into Dudley's possession, as I have before observed, to copy the amount; and, I believe, Biddulph assisted Dudley to do it, and Biddulph took them away.

You told us just now, that you had given them to Biddulph; that was a mistake?—That was not intentional.

Dudley was to copy them, or did copy them, with Biddulph?—Yes.

And you never saw them afterwards?—I never saw them after that night that they were copied.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

You have been asked a good deal about a committee-room, and conducting the election; were there not three or four rooms of the George where the friends of Captain Chetwynd met?—Yes, there was no particular room appropriated.

There were no persons who acted as the committee, or who organized the election at all?—No; there were some came and others went, and there was no organization.

Captain Chetwynd had a great many friends who did individually as much as they could?—Yes.

You say you went with Captain Chetwynd when he canvassed; did you hear a single person ask for money, or hear Captain Chetwynd say any thing about giving any thing for a vote?—No, I did not.

Was there the slightest promise or expectation held out?—No, I do not know of any promise or expectation that was given by Captain Chetwynd.

How long had the burgesses of Stafford been out of work; how long had the election been expected before it actually took place?—I cannot take upon myself to say.

A considerable number of days?—Yes, some time, to the best of my recollection.

Had that the effect of preventing the burgesses from working during that time?—Yes, it always would.

It did so?—It did so, I believe.

Being a burgess of Stafford, and walking in the streets, you can tell whether the burgesses of Stafford were about the streets instead of being at work?—I took so little notice of them that I cannot say; when an election is coming on, they are always loitering about the streets.

You can tell the difference when an election is coming on by the people loitering about?—Yes.

Charles Dawson.

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You said there was some money given before the election; was that given to the families of the men when they had been out of work for some time?—It was given to the parties; I cannot tell what parties.

Was it given indiscrimately, or to any particular party?—It was given indiscriminately to all who came.

How long was that before the election; was it not a month before Parliament was dissolved?—I cannot say.

Was it not a considerable time before?—It was.

Was it not in the beginning of November, the election having taken place in December?—To the best of my knowledge it might be three weeks or a month before the election.

But still there had been a considerable expectation that the election was coming on for some days?—Yes, it was talked of.

And the friends generally had canvassed in the town?—Yes, as far as I recollect.

Your memory does not seem to be very accurate upon some points?—I had so little to do with the election, except going round with Captain Chetwynd, and I never saw a man polled before; I was quite a stranger at the election.

Had you anything to do with the last election?—No, I had not.

There has been a considerable change in the constituency of Stafford since 1832; is that so, a great many more householders now than in 1832?—Yes, there have been a great many new houses built lately.

And the town is in a state of considerable prosperity?—Yes, I think it has improved very much; the trade has been very good.

Are there not a great number of respectable shopkeepers and householders in the borough of Stafford?—Yes, I believe there is.

I ask you whether there are not a great number of respectable shopkeepers in the town?—Yes.

You keep one of the largest chemist's shops in the town?—Yes.

Doing as much business as any man in Stafford, in your class of life?—I dare say I am.

Now I would ask you whether there are not a great number of persons in your class of life, respectable persons, who have never been suspected or believed to have taken a farthing for their votes?—No, I should think not, not guilty of any thing of the kind, I should think.

From your knowledge of Stafford, do not you believe that there are a vast number of persons, even in the lower ranks of life, now, who would not take a farthing for their votes?—Yes, I believe there are, at the present time.

Since the inquiry began respecting the practices at Stafford, there has been a great alteration?—A great alteration, a great feeling against taking any thing of the kind.

And against those who would either give or receive money?—Yes, I do not think that there are a great many who would receive money now.

You were asked about certain slips of paper with some names there; do you mean to say that you yourself delivered them to William Dudley?—I believe I did.

For the purpose of copying them?—Yes.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Dudley and Biddulph?—I gave them to Mr. Dudley.

By a Lord.] Did he give them back to you afterwards?—No, Biddulph took them away; I never had them afterwards.

Mr. *Austin.*] You say that there was no committee; you are sure of that?—I never heard of any.

Perhaps you know that they avoided calling it a committee; did you ever hear of a committee to conduct an election in Stafford?—I have certainly heard of committees at Stafford, more for the county election than for the borough election.

Do you mean to say that committees have not been general in the borough election?—Not to my knowledge; I never had anything to do with an election before in my life.

You say that no promise of payment for votes was made by Captain Chetwynd or on his behalf?—No.

Perhaps you do not know that any payment was made for Captain Chetwynd?—I cannot take upon myself to swear that the money was paid.

You

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You have been asked of the change of the constituency; how many new houses have been built which would qualify people to vote as 10*l.* householders in the last three years?—I am sure I cannot say.

Are there twenty such houses?—I should think more.

How many more?—I should there are ten at 20*l.* a year.

How many are there at 10*l.* a year?—I am sure I cannot say.

Are there enough to produce a considerable effect upon the register?—I am sure I cannot say; I did not take that notice of the houses.

You do not know how many there were upon the register at the election of 1832?—No.

You have not attended to that?—No.

Then your evidence is mere conjecture?—Yes, as regards the houses.

You are of opinion that a change has taken place in the feelings of the people at Stafford?—From what I hear.

You think that the people are becoming more respectable there in respect to election matters?—Yes, I think so.

Do you think that any change has taken place in the respectable portion of society which has been hitherto engaged in giving bribes?—I do not think that they will get people to give bribes again.

Not after these proceedings?—Not after these proceedings.

Do you think that this proceeding produced an effect at the last election?—I suppose it did.

Have you any doubt of that?—I cannot say.

Have you any doubt?—I should think there was no doubt of it.

With respect to any change amongst the voters themselves, that, you say, is a matter of conjecture also?—I cannot speak positively to it.

You think that they would not take bribes so far as they did?—No, I think not.

Do you think that they would drink at the expense of the candidates so far as they did?—That I cannot take upon myself to say.

Then, though you think they will not accept bribes, you can form no opinion as to whether they would accept treats from the candidates; I am asking of the general bulk of the voters?—I cannot say whether they would.

Do you mean to say, with respect to the general mass of the voters, in your opinion, that they would not be willing to take bribes as much as formerly?—I do not think they would.

Are you of opinion that they would be so likely to take treats as formerly from the candidates?—That I cannot say.

Or whether the respectable part of the community, who you think would not be so likely to give bribes, would still give treats to the voters?—I cannot say that.

You have no opinion about that?—No, I have not indeed.

By a Lord.] Are you a voter?—I was not a voter till 1832.

Were you a voter at the last election?—Yes.

Did you vote?—Yes.

You were present then in Stafford during the election?—Yes.

There was not so much bribing at the last election as at the former one?—I never saw anything of the election; I did not go out till I went to give my vote.

Did you purposely stay at home, or is it your habit?—I go out very seldom.

Did you see when you were out that all the houses were open?—I never went out till the last day; for a day or two I was very unwell.

So that the whole town might be very drunk, and you might not have been aware of it?—I was very unwell, and did not go out.

How long before the election was it that you were taken ill in this way?—I was unwell most of the election.

Was it before the election?—Yes.

Before the houses were open?—I am sure I cannot say.

You do not know how long the houses were opened?—No, I do not.

Whether before the election it was for three or four weeks?—I cannot say how long.

And all those treats were defrayed at the expense of the candidates?—Yes.

You do not know whether that was so at the last election?—No.

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Therefore you cannot say whether any improvement was made in the treats?—Not as to the treats.

And in future there will be no bribes given?—I think there would not be; I cannot take upon myself to say.

You think in former times the respectable class of householders would not take bribes?—I should think so.

Were those respectable people ever concerned in the giving of bribes?—I am sure I cannot say; till the election of 1832, I knew nothing about elections.

You knew what the money you gave to Stevenson was for; you said that the respectable people would not have taken bribes; were they disinclined to give bribes?—I am sure I cannot say.

You knew what the money you gave to Stevenson was to be applied for?—Yes, I did.

You hold yourself to be a respectable person; you consider yourself as one of the respectable part of the constituency?—Yes; I had not the sole management of the giving of money.

You gave the money, and you knew for what purpose it was to be applied?—Yes; I knew very well that they were going to pay.

You said you had heard no promise given by Captain Chetwynd or for Captain Chetwynd, or any request of money for a vote; previous to the canvass of 1832 had you amongst Captain Chetwynd's friends heard any intention not to give money for votes?—Yes, I had.

Where was that conversation?—It was from myself to Captain Chetwynd.

Where was that?—The night before I went down to Captain Chetwynd's to his house, and told him that I believed Mr. Blunt was offering money to men, and his answer to me was that he would not give one shilling.

When was that?—The night before the election.

You told him that you believed Mr. Blunt's people were giving?—That they were promising.

What did you propose to him that he should give, or did you inquire whether he would give?—I said, "Captain Chetwynd, what are we to do; Mr. Blunt is giving, and I do not know what will be done;" and he said, "I will not give one shilling;" and I left him with that.

And he gave you no further directions afterwards during the election?—No, he did not; I never saw him till after the first day's poll.

Then, notwithstanding those directions from Captain Chetwynd, you took upon yourself to give the money of Captain Chetwynd to procure votes?—His friends asked for the money; they had as much to do with the money as I had; they were to receive the money for what they wanted.

Who were the friends who asked you for the money?—I do not know who it was, there were a great many in the room.

In what room?—In a room in the George.

Cannot you recollect one individual who asked you for money?—I am sure I cannot recollect a particular individual.

Then the last words that you heard from Captain Chetwynd were that he would not give a shilling on any consideration, and rather lose the election?—I am sure I do not know whether he said that, but something of the sort.

But he would not give any money?—Yes.

Then you took upon yourself, having received those directions, to pay the voters with money, being Captain Chetwynd's; is that the fact?—Captain Chetwynd's friends——

Answer the question. You having received directions from Captain Chetwynd not to give a shilling, did you, upon the solicitation of his friends, give money for the purpose of paying voters?—Yes.

You thought you could not secure his election without?—It was the belief of his friends that he could not secure the election without. I did not know any thing of elections; it was more for his friends than for me, to use means to secure the election.

You expected, when you advanced the money, that you would be repaid that money?—I expected it.

You did not mean to give it out of your own pocket?—No; I could not afford to do it.

Those facts that you have been speaking to took place in 1832?—Yes.

You

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You had nothing to do with paying any money for Captain Chetwynd in 1835?—No; I had nothing to do with that election.

You do not know that any was given for him, or any person in his behalf in 1835?—No, I do not.

You had nothing to do with the ticket money in 1835?—I had not.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Dudley* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

William Dudley.

Mr. *Rushton.*] WHAT are you?—A master builder.

Do you live at Stafford?—Yes.

Were you a friend of Captain Chetwynd at the election of 1832?—I was.

Do you remember receiving any sheets or pieces of paper with names and sums on them from Mr. Dawson?—I do.

Was William Biddulph with you when you received them?—I cannot say.

But you received them from Mr. Dawson?—I believe so.

Did those sheets contain the names of voters, with sums opposite to the names?—They did.

Did you make a copy of them?—I did.

Do you remember what those sheets contained?—I do not.

Were there some hundreds of them?—Yes, there were hundreds of them; there might be 300 or 400, I cannot say.

Can you tell whether there were 500 or not?—There might be, I am not aware.

Might there be 600?—There might be, I cannot say; I never counted them.

What did you do with them?—When I had copied them into a book I gave them back to Mr. Dawson.

How long after the election was that?—It might be four days or five days; I cannot say.

Did Biddulph assist you in making that copy?—He did.

Were you intrusted with any money during that election?—I was not.

Were you at the Lion during that election?—I might have been, but I cannot say.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

You say that you did not count up the number of those names?—I did not.

And that you gave the papers back again to Mr. Dawson?—No, I did not; not the papers.

What became of them?—I believe Biddulph had the papers.

Whether they are in existence now you do not know?—I cannot say.

Do you know the handwriting upon those papers?—I might if I could see them.

You did not at the time?—I did not particularly.

You did not look at them particularly?—Not to say whose writing they were; I cannot say particularly.

You cannot tell whether the names occurred more than once in those lists?—I cannot.

You did not examine them at all?—Yes, I examined them, but there might have been names twice over; there might have been a mistake made.

Were they all in one handwriting?—I believe not; but the greater part of them was.

When did you receive them from Mr. Dawson?—It might be a day or so after the election terminated.

When did you send them to Biddulph?—He was the person appointed to make out a statement, to copy them in his book.

When did he do that?—About two days after the election was over, I think.

Re-examined by Mr. *Rushton.*

Are you acquainted with the handwriting of Wynne?—Not particularly.

Have you seen him write?—Yes; I have seen him write, but it is some years ago; it might be two or three years ago.

Were any sheets in his writing?—I believe there were.

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The greater part of them?—Yes, the greater part of them.

There was a different handwriting, you say?—Yes, I think there was.

Did that occur at the commencement of the list?—I cannot say; they were in different lists.

The greater part would be in the handwriting of Wynne?—Yes.

Do you know Stevenson's handwriting?—I do not.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Biddulph* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

William Biddulph.

Mr. *Austin.*] WHAT are you?—A cordwainer.

Do you live at Stafford?—Yes.

Have you lived there long?—Yes.

All your life?—Yes.

Whom did you vote for in the election of 1832?—Captain Chetwynd.

Whom else?—No one.

You plumped for Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

Do you know William Dudley?—Yes.

The last witness?—Yes.

Did you ever receive any sheets of paper or scraps of paper from him about that election for 1832?—Yes.

Did you get them from him, or from Dawson?—From Mr. Dudley.

What did those papers contain?—The names of persons.

Did they contain any sums?—Yes.

About how many names, do you recollect?—Well, I suppose there were 400 or 500, or between 400 and 500.

Will you undertake to say there were not 600?—No, not 600.

Not 500?—No, not 500.

Did you copy that paper?—I marked it off from the barrister's list.

You mean from the register?—Yes.

What did you mean by marking?—I marked those that had been paid; Mr. Dudley did not.

Did you see it done?—Yes.

In what way?—By ticking them off.

Did you or he read the written lists?—I read them.

You read the names from the sheets, and he had the printed book in his hand?—No, he had a book, not the register then.

What book?—A book to enter them in from the papers.

Did he do that?—Yes.

He entered the whole of them?—Yes, I believe he did.

And you read them, to see that they were right with the list?—Yes.

Did you know the names yourself?—Yes; I knew many of the freemen and electors too.

You know their names?—Yes.

Did you write the sums placed at the end of their names?—I did.

As far as you believe, they were entered in the book by Dudley?—Yes.

What was the purpose of copying those names?—I cannot tell that.

What became of the sheets afterwards?—I kept them in my possession.

What was the size of the bits of paper?—They were different sized sheets.

Mr. *Whateley.*] You mean that they were whole sheets as large as that in my hand?—Some larger than that, and some smaller.

Mr. *Austin.*] You kept those bits of paper, whatever they were?—Yes.

What became of them ultimately?—I kept them in my possession till 12th July 1833.

That was the day you were examined before the Committee of the House of Commons, was not it?—It was.

Did you carry them to the Committee of the House of Commons?—I did.

What did you do with them when you brought them there?—I gave them to Sir Thomas Freemantle.

Have you ever seen them since?—I have not.

Have you ever given any other list to Sir Thomas Fremantle but that?—No.

Did you see any other list?—There was sent by Allen a copy of 10*l.* householders.

There

William Biddulph.

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There was a copy sent by Allen?—Yes, there was a copy of his.

Who made it?—I think Dudley made it.

From what was it made?—It was struck out from the lists and papers.

The scraps?—No, not scraps, but sheets of paper.

Mr. Dudley wrote the names into a book?—Yes.

Was he also ticking the men with the printed register?—Yes, three or four of those barrister's lists.

Who ticked them?—Mr. Dudley.

Did he tick them upon the same sheets he had copied before into the same book?—Yes.

Do you know what became of those ticked barrister's lists?—One was sent to the House of Commons.

How do you know that?—I gave it to Allen.

How came you to have it?—William Dudley gave it me.

Did Allen take it to the House of Commons?—He sent it; he sent a letter.

How do you know he sent it?—He told me so.

You did not deliver it in yourself?—I did not.

Just look at that [*the list in page* 185 *of the printed Minutes of the Committee of the House of Commons being shown to the Witness*]?—I can see all the names; I know all those men.

Were all those names in the lists?—I cannot swear that.

Were any of them in the lists?—Yes; I can think of one or two.

You remember one or two of them being in the lists?—Yes.

You cannot state from your memory who were in those lists?—No, I cannot, except one or two.

Give us the names of those?—William Tagg, I can recollect particularly.

Was William Tagg the senior or the junior?—The senior.

Do you recollect what money was against his name?—Yes.

What?—Two pounds ten shillings.

Just look, and see whether you can recognise him in your list?—Here he is.

What other name do you recollect?—Brown; I think his name is Thomas Brown.

How much had Thomas Brown, according to your sheets of paper?—Two pounds ten shillings.

Just look at the name of Thomas Brown there?—There is a Thomas Brown there, but I cannot be certain whether he is the same or another; there might be two.

There is also 2*l.* 10*s.* there, is not there?—Yes.

Is there such a man as Thomas Brown in Stafford?—Yes; an elector.

Was he an elector in the year 1832?—He was.

You have told us already that the names in the sheets or scraps of paper were names of electors and burgesses?—They were.

Have you cast your eye generally over those?—Yes.

Are those the names of electors and burgesses?—Yes, they are.

How came you to recollect the name of William Tagg particularly?—I saw him paid.

Where did you see him paid?—At the Lion, at the Green.

Who paid him?—I think Mr. Stevenson paid him.

You saw Mr. Stevenson pay him?—Yes.

What did he give him?—He gave Tagg 2*l.* 10*s.*

What is Tagg?—A publican and farmer, and, I think, a little master shoemaker.

What sort of station of life is he in?—Very good circumstances.

Is he a burgess or a 10*l.* householder?—A 10*l.* householder; it is of the new constituency extending to the Green; he lived there, it is out of the borough.

You say you remember Brown's name?—I do.

How is it you recollect his name?—I saw him paid.

What did Brown get?—He drawed a 5*l.* note.

Who gave it to him?—I think Mr. Stevenson gave it him.

Did he give him anything in return?—No, he gave it another man as well as for him.

Was Brown a freeholder or a 10*l.* householder?—A 10*l.* householder also.

Do you know Francis Wynne?—Yes, I know the man.

William Biddulph.

7 July 1836.

Do you know whether he was paid or not?—I cannot tell.

Do you know the name of Hodgskins?—I do.

Did you see him paid?—No, I drawed his money for him.

Is he a burgess or a 10*l.* householder?—He is dead, he was a freeman; he was a cordwainer.

Have you a handbill in your pocket?—Yes.

Will you produce it?—[*The Witness produced the same.*]

Where did you get that handbill?—It was brought to me last week.

Who brought it?—A man of the name of Samuel Clews.

Did you ever see that handbill, or a copy of it, before?—Yes.

When?—I saw one on the 12th of July 1833.

Was it produced before the Committee of the House of Commons?—It was, I believe.

Did you see it in the committee-room there?—Yes.

Did you ever see it in Stafford?—Yes, many times; I had many in my possession many times, and may have one now at home.

Whenabouts did you see that handbill, or a copy of it, in Stafford?—It might be in 1833, about February or January.

Did you read them?—Yes.

Whereabouts did you see it?—After Mr. Blount gave it out.

Did you see it about the town?—Oh, yes, many of them.

Were they generally distributed about the town?—Yes, the same as they distribute bills.

Did you see any on the walls?—No.

But they were distributed through the town?—Yes, they were.

Does that relate to the election of 1833?—It does.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

If I rightly understand you, what you call the barristers' list was a register of voters, both of 10*l.* householders and freemen?—Yes.

Printed on a large sheet?—Not on a large sheet, but in a book.

They were printed in books that year?—Yes.

There were certain names on the list, and you and Dudley made a tick against those names?—We did so.

To point out certain names in the printed lists to correspond with the written lists you had?—Yes.

How many of those printed lists did you tick off in the printed books?—I should think four or five, there might be six.

Can you tell me what became of them?—I had one or two of them.

Perhaps you have now, for anything you know?—I have one at home, I think.

What became of the other one?—I gave one to Mr. Dawson.

One, if I understand you rightly, was produced before the Committee of the House of Commons?—Part of one.

Did you see that produced before the Committee of the House of Commons?—I saw it in there, but did not see it given in.

Besides those five or six, the printed books, that were ticked off with those names, there was a list copied in the book by Dudley?—There was.

Do you know what became of that book?—I do not.

Did you see that list in Dudley's possession?—I did.

If I understand you rightly, the original sheets of paper, and one of those printed books that were ticked off, or part of the printed book ticked off, you saw the last time in the committee-room of the House of Commons when you were examined?—I did

But not the copy made in the book?—I did not.

What has become of that you do not know?—No, I do not.

Do you remember being required to point out all the 10*l.* householders you could who were alleged to have taken money according to that list?—Yes, we took them out.

How many could you find that you knew?—I think we ticked about eighty or eighty-three that I knew.

I am speaking of the 10*l.* householders?—Yes, so am I.

Are those two you mentioned the only men you knew?—The only men that I saw paid.

With respect to that handbill, do you know who wrote it?—I do not; it has Mr Blunt's name at the bottom.

William Biddulph.

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Do you happen to know whether he has not been in attendance here for several days, and not been called by the promoters of the Bill; you have seen him about, have not you?—Yes, I have.

Waiting in the lobby of the House of Lords?—I have.

The gentleman whose name professes to be at the bottom of this Bill?—Yes.

Have you lived in Stafford up to the present time?—I have.

In your opinion, has the constituency of Stafford improved since the election of 1832?—Very much indeed.

Both as regards the poor men and others?—Yes, both.

Since that time has there been a good deal of discussion among the people, and attempts to discourage the practices that used to take place there?—Certainly there has.

At the last election, except by Captain Gronow's voters, were there any other persons, to your knowledge, who received a farthing for their votes?—I do not know of any; I do not believe there were any.

There was a good deal of ale running?—Yes; but some would not take a glass of that.

You would not yourself?—No, I would not

But some of the Stafford people do take it when it is going?—Yes, many do, when it is given for nothing.

Have you been acquainted with elections at other places?—I have.

Did you ever know an election where there was a not good deal of treating?—More than at Stafford.

Did you ever know of an election where there was not a good deal?—No; I do not know of any one where there was not.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

You say you drew Mr. Hodgskin's money for him?—Yes, I did.

How came you to do that?—He ax'd me, for he was ill.

Did you happen to draw any money for yourself?—Yes, I did.

You do not mean to say you took a bribe for that election?—I did not take it for voting.

What did you take it for?—For my services.

Are you John or William?—William.

You took 5*l.*—Yes.

For whom did you vote?—Captain Chetwynd.

For no other?—No; I voted for Captain Chetwynd.

And you took 5*l.*—Yes, they gave it me.

Who gave it you?—Mr. John Kinderdine Shaw.

He was at the Lion, paying the bribes;—Yes.

And he paid you?—He did.

Did you drink any beer at that election?—Yes.

At the last election you had been purified, and would not take a bribe?—Yes.

Were there many persons who had been purified by the discussion when that took place?—Yes, a great many.

Do you know whether there was any beer drank at the last election?—A great deal.

The people were drinking beer for six or seven days?—I should think they were.

In all the public-houses of the town?—I never was but in one or two.

Do not you know there was extensive treating took place?—Yes, I could hear of that, but did not see it; there was certainly treating.

And extensive treating?—I cannot speak farther than my own knowledge.

Do you consider that a sign of improvement?—There are a great many I know who would not take a glass of ale.

Did you consider extensive treating a sign of improvement?—Yes, I consider so far as this, it always has been the case in every town I have been in; and I have been in many in England where I have known men that would not take a glass of ale or any money; I think that it is a sign of improvement.

By a Lord.] You have stated that you are pretty sure the number of persons paid did not exceed 500?—There was not 500, I think, but I cannot state from my knowledge.

William Biddulph.

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The list you have been reading just now contains the names of 618?—Yes, there is that number now, but I cannot prove that from my own knowledge.

In looking at that list does it alter the opinion you gave before with respect to the number of persons?—I cannot state that upon truth.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Dudley* was again called in, and further Examined, as follows:

William Dudley.

Mr. *Austin.*] WERE you present with the last witness at any time when he read over the sheets of paper we have been talking about?—I was.

Did he read?—He called over the names.

And the sums?—No, I believe not.

Just try and recollect?—He might, but I do not recollect.

When he read them, you made the entry in a book?—I did.

In a manuscript book?—Yes.

Did you enter the names?—Yes.

And the sums?—I cannot say.

What became of that book?—I gave it to Mr. Dawson.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Charles Dawson* was again called in, and further Examined as follows.

Charles Dawson.

Mr. *Austin.*] AMONGST other papers you received, do you recollect receiving a manuscript book from the last witness, Dudley; did Dudley ever send you a manuscript book containing the names of voters?—Yes, I said so before.

Do you recollect whether any sums were inserted in that book against the names of the voters?—I believe there were.

Did you understand what that book meant?—The book was copied from this list.

You knew at the time that book was copied from that list?—I had it done to make an account.

Did you tell us whether there was such a book when I examined you before?—Yes.

It escaped me that you did; what became of that book?—I gave it up with the other papers.

Did you give that book to Captain Chetwynd?—I did.

By a Lord.] When?—About a fortnight after the election.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you remember how many names it contained?—I cannot say.

About how many?—I cannot say, I never looked at it.

Did it contain 400 or 500?—I am sure I cannot say.

Might it contain 400 or 500?—I should think not, but I never cast it up, nor looked over the names.

Might it not contain 600?—I will not swear it did not, I really cannot say.

I must have an answer to that question distinctly; will you swear that that book did not contain 600 names and 600 sums?—It is impossible for me to swear that.

You will not swear that?—I will not.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] You never looked at the book?—No, I never did, I never cast it up, I never looked at the book.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you mean to say you never looked at the book?—I did not.

How do you know what was in it?—Dudley told me what it contained.

You mean to say you do not know the amount?—I might know the amount at the time, but I cannot say whether I did or not.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *Austin* proposed to put in in evidence the placard produced by William Biddulph.

Mr. *Whateley* was heard against the reception of the same.

The Counsel were directed to state the view with which it was proposed to be put in.

Mr.

Charles Dawson.

7 July 1836.

Mr. *Austin* stated, that he offered it as being a placard notoriously distributed through the town of Stafford at the period of an election, conceiving it to be evidence of the notoriety of bribery alleged by the Bill.

The Counsel were informed, that it could not be received as evidence of the fact having occurred in the town.

Mr. *Austin* stated, that he offered it as evidence that such a paper was distributed, not for the purpose of proving its contents.

The Counsel were informed, that in that view it appeared to be no evidence, there being no proof who had issued it.

Then Mr. *Luke James Hansard* was again called in, and further Examined as follows :

Mr.
Luke J. Hansard.

Mr. *Austin.*] ARE you the Printer for the House of Commons?—I am, jointly with my father and uncle.

From whom do you receive the Reports of Committees entrusted to you to print?—From the Journal Office.

From any particular person there?—No.

Will you look at that Report?—I have one in my hand.

Is that dated 1834?—One thousand eight hundred and thirty-three; it was reprinted for the Lords in 1834.

Is that printed by you?—Yes.

Was that the Report of the Proceedings on the Stafford Election of 1832?—It was so.

Does that contain documents appended to the Report?—Yes.

Lists of names?—Yes.

Did you obtain those from the Journal Office?—We did, on the 18th of July.

Have you any proofs or revises of that?—Yes, the proofs.

Was this sent to the Journal Office and returned to you?—It was sent on the 25th of July, and returned on the 26th.

Does that comprise the whole of the Appendix?—It does.

Is the proof generally returned to you from the Journal Office?—Yes, that is the practice.

Did you print from this?—Yes, we did.

What was the signature at top?—That is no signature; that is simply our mark for press; there is a signature at the foot, J. L. P.

Do you know whose signature that is?—Mr. Postlethwaite's, intimating that he had examined it.

Did you send the manuscript with the proof?—Yes, for examination, which is not again returned to us.

Have you any doubt that proof is a copy, with the corrections, of the document which lies before you?—I have no doubt at all this is printed from this.

That is a print of this which you had from the Journal Office, with the initials of Mr. Postlethwaite, with the corrections he has made?—It is so.

That is the usual course of your proceedings?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

What Mr. Postlethwaite examined from you do not know?—I cannot tell; I know what we sent.

You sent a manuscript?—Yes.

You did not receive that manuscript again?—Certainly not.

Whether the proofs did correspond with the manuscript you cannot tell, of course?—We can tell that it corresponded with the manuscript we had in our hands, because it was read in our office.

Not by yourself?—No.

Of your own knowledge you do not know whether that proof corresponded with any manuscript at all?—No.

Only from the confidence you reposed?—Yes.

Is Mr. Postlethwaite's signature to the whole of those sheets, or only to one?—To one at the end; they were returned on the same day.

It is only the Appendix you speak to?—No; I have the Report in my hand.

It contained a good many sheets, and there is Mr. Postlethwaite's signature to one?—Yes.

Mr. *Luke J. Hansard.*

7 July 1836.

Whether at the time he put his signature he had others you cannot tell?—I cannot tell that.

Re-examined by Mr. *Rushton.*

Is that before you the other part of the Report?—It is.

Is it usual for Mr. Postlethwaite to sign every sheet?—No; when they return they sign the last of the parcel they send back to us; here are others with a different signature.

He signed all that portion of the Report which was sent back to you at that time?—Yes.

My learned friend has asked you whether you read the original manuscript?—I did not.

Who was the reader at that time in your office?—A person of the name of Arle.

Is he alive?—He is.

Is he in your employment now?—No.

Do you know where he is?—He is, I believe, under confinement in Newgate.

Is it the ordinary course with the printer to compare the proof with the manuscript, note the corrections, and then to send it back to the Journal Office?—It is.

Have you any doubt this was sent in the ordinary course you describe?—No doubt at all; it bears our mark.

You find it dated the 25th of July, and Mr. Postlethwaite's signature at the end?—Yes.

Mr. *Whateley.*] You state that Mr. Postlethwaite compared it?—Yes.

Was it compared by any one in your presence?—It is compared by us first, and then it is sent to the Journal Office; there are a great many things we correct in the reading before we send it down.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *Charles Rowland* was again called in, and further Examined as follows:

Mr. *Charles Rowland.*

WHAT was your office in 1833?—I was then clerk in the Journal Office, as I am now, and it was my duty to examine the proofs of the printed papers.

When the proofs were sent back from the printer's, did the manuscript accompany them?—I have no doubt it did; it is the course of business.

You examined the paper with the manuscript, and sent it back for revise or for press, as the case might be?—Yes.

Did you retain the manuscript?—That is the course of business to retain the manuscript.

Suppose you want a revise, do you keep the proof in that case?—If the alterations were very extensive; we should keep it if they were very material.

Otherwise the proof would go back to the printer, and remain with him?—Yes.

Just look at that proof [*the proof produced by Mr. Hansard*]; would a proof with so few alterations as are contained in that go back to the printer, or remain with you?—It would go back to the printer, and we should take no further notice of it; it would remain with the printer.

The manuscript would remain with you?—Yes.

Do you remember what became of the Stafford manuscripts in the year 1833?—I have no recollection; but I have no doubt at all they were put away.

What, in the course of business, would have become of this manuscript in the year 1833, after it had been printed?—I think in the year 1833 it was my duty to see the manuscripts were handed over to the binder and bound, and returned from the binder, and put away for reference.

That would have been your duty in the course of business?—Yes.

You do not recollect particularly whether you handed over this manuscript or not?—No; it is impossible.

There are too many papers for you to recollect that?—Yes, far too many.

If they came to you, have you any doubt they were sent to the binder's, and properly deposited?—Not at all.

Do

Mr. *Charles Rowland.*

7 July 1836.

Do you happen to know whether any of those papers were burnt in the fire?—I have reason to believe they were all burnt in the fire, inasmuch as every paper in that room, I believe, was totally destroyed.

In what room do you speak of?—A room in the basement story of the old house.

Do you know whether the papers in that room were destroyed or not?—I have every reason to believe they were destroyed; a few papers, but I believe not of those years, 1833 and 1834, were thrown out.

And preserved?—They can hardly be said to be preserved, they were thrown out in a great bundle in the confusion.

Where are they now?—In the Westminster Hospital.

Have you been there?—No; I think at the time of the fire I was there.

Have you examined these papers?—No; but our messenger has examined them.

What is his name?—William Mitchell.

How did the manuscript come to you; what is the course of business with respect to that?—The first time we should have possession of the manuscript would be upon the day on which it was presented to the House; it would come from the table of the House directly to the Journal Office; that is the course of business.

Do you entertain any doubt, that together with the Report, the Appendix came to you in the way you describe?—Occasions arise where the Committee sometimes print their evidence day by day, and that evidence is not always in the bulk presented to the House, it remains in the hands of the printer, and he would send it to us with the proof.

But supposing it was all sent at once, would the course be that it should be sent from the House to you, and from you to the printer?—Yes, it would.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Whether those proofs went back to the printer or not you cannot tell?—Now I think I can, inasmuch as I have seen the corrected proof.

A corrected proof?—The corrected proof, I have corrected part of it myself; the Report I corrected with the evidence, not the Appendix.

Was there more than one room where the papers were deposited, the original manuscripts of those sort of things you spoke of, the lower room?—The House of Commons was full in every part.

Whether those papers were in the lower room, or any other, you cannot tell?—I can tell; they were on the basement story; there were two rooms where such papers were; in which those papers were in I have no personal knowledge.

Or whether, in truth, they were among the papers destroyed, you have no personal knowledge?—The whole room was destroyed, and except a very few papers, the whole of the papers in both rooms; and I believe, from information, the whole of the papers in one room, without any saving whatever, were destroyed.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Mitchell* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

William Mitchell.

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a messenger to the House of Commons?—To the Journal Office.

Have you examined the papers saved from the basement stories, where the documents were deposited?—For what year?

The years 1833 and 1834?—The papers in the Stafford case were all destroyed.

Have you looked at the papers that were saved?—Yes, but there were no papers saved of that year whatsoever.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

None in 1834?—There were none scheduled in 1834; the Stafford was printed in 1833.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *George White.*

5 July 1830.

Then Mr. *George White* was again called in, and further Examined as follows:

Mr. *Austin.*] YOU have stated that you were the Committee clerk in the Stafford Committee in 1833?—I was.

Did you compare any sheets of paper that were handed in?—I compared the list, and I think one I made out which was admitted in evidence by the parties.

Do you remember any sheets of paper being handed in?—There were lists of names on paper which were tacked together.

Had you any thing to do with those lists of names?—I had to make out an alphabetical list of them for the Report.

Just refer to page 175 of the Report before you; did you make out that list?—I know I made out a list of the names which were delivered in by Harding; I have no doubt this is the same.

Did you arrange that list?—I did.

Look at page 185; did you make out that list?—Yes, that I certainly did.

From what paper?—From, I think, a parcel of scraps of paper.

Do you know a man of the name of Biddulph; do you recollect his being called?—No; I cannot say that I do remember him at this moment; and yet I think he was one of the very last witnesses, if I mistake not, sent for express; there were two sent for, and the Committee adjourned till they arrived.

Do you recollect whether the other man's name was Allen?—Yet, it was; he was the brother of a man who had been previously examined that could not prove it.

Those lists were made out from the papers delivered in by one of those witnesses?—Yes.

Can you recollect whether it was Biddulph?—I think Allen was the principal evidence upon that occasion.

Can you recollect which put them in?—The one put them in, and the other identified them, I think.

When the lists were made out, both Harding's and Biddulph's, did you append them to the Report?—I did.

And delivered them to Sir Thomas Fremantle?—I delivered them to Sir Thomas Fremantle, I think, the originals, with the lists annexed to them.

Did he return them to you?—He returned them to me, endorsed and sealed up.

What became of them?—I put them into my top desk.

What became of them?—I suppose they are gone with the rest by the fire.

Were they sent to the room where the Stafford papers were kept?—No; they would have remained in the Committee Clerk's Office.

Was that burnt down?—Yes.

The Report with the lists you made out was given to Sir Thomas Freemantle?—I put it on the bar myself; it was my business to do so.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

First, as to Harding's list, No. 1, if I understand you rightly, you did not make out the written list from the tickets?—I compared the tickets with the written lists, and put them alphabetically; the list was not alphabetical.

Did you make another written list?—I made but one.

What became of the original one?—I sent it to Sir Thomas Fremantle.

Which one you made yourself?—No; the one I made myself was sent into the House.

What became of the one you sent to Sir Thomas Fremantle, you do not know?—Yes, I do; he returned them in a packet sealed with his seal.

You do not know the contents of that packet, of course?—No, of course not.

Did you make out any other other lists appended to the Reports yourself?—Yes, the whole of them; I was desired to do it myself, and not to put it into any other clerk's hands.

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till To-morrow, at Three o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Veneris, 8° *Julii*, 1836.

THE order of the day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled, "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament," and for the Lords to be summoned, and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill, and the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their petition; 8 July 1836.

Counsel were called in.

Mr. *Rushton* proposed to give in evidence the lists appended to the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons in 1833.

Mr. *Whateley* was heard in opposition to the reception of the evidence.

Mr. *Austin* was heard in support of the evidence.

Mr. *Whateley* was heard in reply.

The House determined, that the papers tendered should be received.

[*The same were delivered in, and read, as follow:*]

A List of the 479 Tickets delivered in to the Committee by *Samuel Harding*.

NAME UPON TICKET.	No. of Seals.	No. in Black Ink.	No. in Red Ink.	SIGNATURES and INDORSEMENTS, &c.
Allcock, Samuel	-	-	984	Sam. Harding, P. P. 5*s*. Foregate-st.
Allen, Henry	1	27	15	
Allen, James	1	19	12	
Allen, John	1	4	2	
Allen, John	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Ansell, James	1	21	21	
Ansell, George	1	22	17	
Arrowsmith, Thomas	1	30	7	
Arrowsmith, George	1	18	4	
Aston, Henry	1	23	22	
Astbury, Joseph	1	20	14	
Austin, William	1	15	16	
Austin, Thomas	1	3	3	
Bailey, Humphrey	-	-	52	Sam. Harding.
Bate, George	1	104	104	
Bayley, Moses	1	61	71	
Bates, William	1	119	112	
Barrett, William	1	64	77	
Banks, George	1	86	97	
Baker, Thomas	2	6	30	
Barkee, Edward	—	—	—	
Bagley, William	—	—	—	
Bentley, Edward	-	-	115	Sam. Harding.
Beaman, Richard	-	-	64	Sam. Harding.
Bentley, George	2	23	128	
Bentley, William	-	-	989	J. U.
Bentley, William	-	-	991	Sam. Harding.
Beardmore, Charles	1	65	81	
Beardmore, John	1	118	117	

8 July 1836.

NAME UPON TICKET.	No. of Seals.	No. in Black Ink.	No. in Red Ink.	SIGNATURES and INDORSEMENTS, &c.
Bennett, John	1	63	74	
Beech, William, jun.	1	49	37	
Bee, Theophilus	1	67	84	
Beardmore, William	-	-	-	Sam. Harding, £3. 0. 0.
Bee, Jessy	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Biddulph, George	1	35	43	
Bill, Benjamin	1	42	46	
Bill, James	2	24	133	
Bird, Thomas	-	-	996	Sam. Harding. Painter, £4.
Birtles, John	1	53	60	
Birch, Henry	1	105	126	
Birtles, James	2	43	123	
Birch, Edward	1	62	72	
Biddulph, Henry	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Blackband, John	2	18	107	
Blackband, Richard	1	96	124	
Bladon, John	1	25	120	
Bladon, John	1	112	35	
Bowers, Joseph	2	19	111	
Bott, Benjamin	1	80	94	
Bott, Thomas	-	-	1,015	Sam. Harding, Chetwynd G. Painter, £4.
Boulton, Robert	1	94	108	
Boulton, Thomas	1	81	100	
Boulton, Thomas	1	99	89	
Bott, James	1	66	82	
Bould, Thomas	1	36	119	
Boult, John	1	85	39	
Boult, Charles	1	87	40	
Borrell, James	-	-	1,003	Sam. Hardy.
Bott, Henry	-	-	-	Sam. Hardy.
Booth, Samuel	-	-	-	Sam. Hardy.
Bray, Samuel	1	59	—	
Brooce, Thomas	1	93	105	
Brooce, William	1	109	130	
Brookes, William	2	27	136	
Brookes, Daniel	2	28	144	
Bradshaw, Thomas	2	13	80	
Brown, John	1	88	76	
Brough, William	1	95	109	
Brook, Edward	1	46	136	
Brough, Thomas	2	17	132	
Brindley, Thomas	1	68	83	
Bradshaw, Joseph	1	83	95	
Bratt, William	1	97	125	
Brough, Thomas	1	109	102	
Bullock, Thomas	1	54	47	
Bullock, Richard	1	47	62	
Bullock, Abraham	1	132	143	
Bullock, Thomas	1	38	50	
Butler, James	1	108	129	
Bulerton, John	1	144	99	
Cartwright, Walter	1	155	196	
Caithness, John Stubs	-	-	186	S. U.
Carter, John	1	183	194	
Cadman, Robert	1	214	198	
Careless, James	1	141	152	
Careless, Edward	1	189	169	
Charlesworth, Thomas	1	262	203	
Chapman, John	1	215	189	
Chidley, John	1	140	149	
Charlesworth, Joseph	-	-	203	Sam. Harding, Bostock, £4
Clewlow, George	1	156	199	
Clarke, James Knight	1	259	206	
Clews, Thomas	1	224	202	
Clews, Thomas	1	229	176	

8 July 1836.

NAME UPON TICKET	No. of Seals.	No. in Black Ink.	No. in Red Ink.	SIGNATURES and INDORSEMENTS, &c.
Clewlow, Charles	1	260	181	
Clewlow, William	2	41	168	6. 0. 0.
Clews, Sam., jun.	2	31	202	
Cook, John Haylis	1	241	193	
Cooper, John	1	227	201	
Corker, Thomas	-	-	1,025	Sam. Harding.
Cooke, Henry	1	139	163	Bucknell.
Cottreele, Samuel	1	182	191	
Cooke, Daniel	1	143	154	
Cooke, Richard	1	142	153	
Cork, Charles	1	166	204	Bostock, 3. 10. 0.
Corker, Daniel	1	157	205	
Collyer, Edward	1	257	180	
Cottreel, William	1	165	179	
Cooper, Peter Chambers	1	242	200	
Cotterill, Matthew	1	224	188	
Cook, Samuel	2	33	171	
Collier, John	1	261	1,030	
Collier, John	-	-	1,030	Sam. Harding.
Collet, Arthur	-	—	—	
Cross, John	1	154	170	
Crutchley, John	-	-	1,021	Sam. Harding. Painter, £4.
Crutchley, Henry	-	-	1,031	Sam. Harding. Painter.
Crutchley, William	1	129	161	
Croxton, Joseph	1	144	159	
Day, Thomas	-	-	227	Sam. Harding.
Dale, Joseph	-	-	210	Sam. Harding.
Day, John	1	196	211	
Davenhill, Charles	1	220	223	
Dakin, John	1	219	220	
Day, Francis	1	194	242	
Dale, James	2	39	248	7. 0. 0.
Dale, William	1	210	253	
Dale, Henry	1	195	239	
Day, George	1	253	254	
Davenhill, Charles, jun.	1	162	251	
Dawson, Edward	1	221	229	
Day, Thomas	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Deakin, George	-	-	209	T. U.
Deane, John	-	-	1,035	Sam. Harding.
Dudley, John	2	53	207	6. 10. 0.
Dyche, William	1	209	247	
Earp, Thomas	1	218	268	4. 0. 0.
Ebberly, James	1	233	276	
Ebberly, John	2	62	266	7. 0. 0.
Ecclestone James	1	225	272	Painters, 4.
Ecclestone, John	1	231	264	
Edwards, George	2	52	273	7. 0. 0.
Elsmore, William	1	232	271	
Emberton, Thomas	1	216	262	
Emberton, James	2	71	267	7. 0. 0.
Emery, Edwin	-	-	-	S. U. 3.
Evans, John	2	76	275	7. 0. 0.
Evans, Robert	2	77	274	7.
Fernyhough, John	-	-	311	Sam. Harding.
Finlow, Thomas	2	61	301	
Fisher, Thomas	-	-	315	Sam. Harding.
Finlow, John	2	95	296	£7.
Fishie, James	-	-	317	Sam. Harding.
Finlow, William	-	-	281	Sam. Harding.
Finsley William	2	61	-	7.
Finlow, John	1	205	—	
Follows, Jacob	-	-	309	Sam. Harding.
Fowler John	2	98	307	7.

(*continued*)

8 July 1836.

NAME UPON TICKET.	No. of Seals.	No. in Black Ink.	No. in Red Ink.	SIGNATURES and INDORSEMENTS, &c.
Follows, John	2	55	302	7. 0. 0.
Follows, Samuel	1	205	286	
Frith, James	1	204	297	4.
Follows, Samuel	1	202	295	
Franty, Charles	-	-	1,044	Sam. Harding. House K.
Frith, James	1	206	287	4.
Fradley, William	2	44	-	7.
Gilbert, William	2	97	340	Painter, £8.
Gilbert, William	1	230	334	4. 0. 0.
Gilbert, John	-	-	326	Sam. Harding.
Glover, Will[m] Gibbons	-	-	359	S. U.
Goodwin, Thomas	2	73	355	£8.
Goodall, John	-	-	344	Sam. Harding.
Goodwin, James	-	-	320	S. U. Painter, 3.
Godwin, John	-	-	325	Sam. Harding.
Goodhall, Henry	1	213	343	
Godwin, Abraham	-	-	335	Sam. Harding.
Godwin, George	2	72	328	8. 0. 0.
Godwin, John	-	-	338	Sam. Harding.
Goodwin, Richard	-	-	330	Sam. Harding.
Godwin, John	2	99	339	W. Bostock, Order, 8. 0. 0. Bostock, 8. 0. 0.
Godwin, Samuel	2	50	342	Painter, £8.
Goodwin, James	-	-	354	S. Harding.
Goodall, John	1	238	—	
Goodall, John	2	65	-	£7.
Grattidge, William	-	-	361	Sam. Harding.
Greenwood, John	2	90	356	Bostock, £7.
Griffin, George	2	60	332	7. 0. 0.
Griffin, William	-	-	327	S. U.
Greenwood, Henry	-	-	337	Sam. Harding.
Greenough, Thomas	-	-	336	Sam. Harding.
Gripton, Thomas	-	-	1,050	Sam. Harding.
Green, Thomas	-	-	1,047	Sam. Harding.
Guest, Thomas	-	-	346	Sam. Harding.
Guest, John	-	-	329	Sam. Harding.
Hawkins, David Barnet	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Hardy, George	2	94	-	7. 0. 0.
Hawkins, George	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Haynes, Geo. Undell	—	—	—	
Hawkins, Samuel	-	-	390	S. U.
Hart, Henry	-	-	446	S. U.
Harvey, William	2	91	461	7.
Harding, William	-	-	370	Sam. Harding.
Haywood, William	-	-	372	Sam. Harding.
Hawkins, Michael	-	-	431	S. U.
Harding, William	-	-	395	S. U.
Harrison, Joseph	2	74	373	Single, £4. paid.
Harrison, Joseph	2	82	443	£8.
Hall, Henry	2	88	397	Kingston, £8.
Hawkins, Charles	-	-	445	S. U.
Harper, Emanuel	-	-	1,156	Sam. Harding.
Haywood, Robert	-	-	412	S. U.
Halden, George	2	54	418	6. 0. 0.
Halford, Frederick	-	-	447	Sam. Harding. Kingstone, Promise £5.
Hassal, Ephraim	1	8	382	
Harrison, Thomas	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Harding, John	2	92	-	7.
Heath, John	-	-	380	Sam. Harding.
Heath Thomas	-	-	384	S. U.
Heath, Francis	-	-	393	Sam. Harding.
Heath, Thomas	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Hill, Edward	-	-	366	S. U.
Highfield, John	2	93	-	7. 0. 0.
Hollis, Walter	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.

NAME UPON TICKET.	No. of Seals.	No. in Black Ink.	No. in Red Ink.	SIGNATURES and INDORSEMENTS, &c.
Hodson, Joseph	-	-	406	Sam. Harding.
Holmes, Edward	2	81	374	Monday, paid. Tuesday, £8.
Hodgkins, William	-	-	402	Sam. Harding. Painter.
Horne, Robert	-	-	377	Sam. Harding.
Hodson, John	-	-	387	Sam. Harding.
Holmes, Joseph	-	-	1,056	
Hodson, Thomas	-	-	368	S. U.
Hughes, John	-	-	381	S. U.
Hudson, John	2	100	471	6.
Insley, Charles	-	-	478	S. U.
James, John, jun.	2	86	504	4.
James, Thomas	2	59	493	£6.
James, William	-	-	-	S. U.
Jennings, George	-	-	515	S. U.
Johnson, Charles	2	84	509	£7.
Johnson, Christopher	2	85	507	2.
Jones, Robert	2	69	1,062	Mr. Painter, £10. Mr. Webster.
Jones, Henry	2	56	505	Bostock, £10.
Johnson, John	2	70	499	J. Kingstown, £8.
Johnson, William	-	-	513	S. U.
Jones, Robert	2	83	477	Monday, £12.
Jones, William	2	89	483	Webster, £10.
Jones, John	2	96	-	7.
Johnson, Thomas	2	75	-	£8.
Keen, Thomas	-	-	520	Sam. Harding.
Kenderdine, John	-	-	524	S. U.
Kent, James	-	-	1,064	Sam. Harding.
Kepling, John	-	-	1,065	Sam. Harding.
Lander, Thomas, Molls-hall	-	-	556	Sam. Harding.
Machin, Charles	1	9	594	
Mason, John	1	12	586	
Machin, David	1	28	627	
Machin, Thomas	1	13	612	
Mayton, Francis	1	6	602	
Machin, Josiah	1	56	597	
Machin, John	2	63	-	7. 0. 0.
Machin, John	2	47	-	7.
Meddings, William	2	66	1,088	£7.
Meynibs, William	2	4	629	
Mills, Joseph	1	11	590	
Millsbee, Joseph	1	171	—	
Mitchell, William	1	24	—	
Moreton, John	1	101	589	
Moreton, William	2	5	600	
Moore, Thomas	1	1	603	
Moore, George	1	145	596	
Moore, Richard	2	3	606	
Moreton, Francis	1	10	625	
Mountford, Edward	1	2	608	
Moreton, Joseph	1	41	592	
Mountford, Richard	1	37	609	
Mountford, William	2	1	611	
Mountford, William	1	100	611	
Moreton, Thomas	1	17	591	
Moreton, Dan., jun.	2	2	623	
Moreton, William	1	7	638	
Moore, Geo. Nathaniel	1	16	628	
Nevett, Robert	1	26	650	
Nevett, Thomas	1	34	640	
Newbold, Robert	1	14	649	
Nield, John	2	30	643	
Nield, William	1	84	652	
Owen, John	1	31	657	

8 July 1836.

NAME UPON TICKET.	No. of Seals.	No. in Black Ink.	No. in Red Ink.	SIGNATURES and INDORSEMENTS, &c.
Pacton, John	2	24	708	
Painter, Rich. Cook	1	92	712	
Parker, George	1	43	679	
Parker, William	1	48	669	
Padmore, Wm. Thomas	1	71	711	
Padmore, John	1	33	660	
Parker, Thomas	1	69	705	
Parker, Thos. Whistance	1	44	687	
Painter, Joseph	2	11	700	
Padmore, William	1	32	662	
Padmore, William	1	39	672	
Perry, Thos., jun.	2	8	701	
Perry, Thos., jun.	2	7	676	
Perry, Thomas	2	9	670	
Perry, Henry	2	10	699	
Perry, William	1	70	707	
Perry, William	2	26	-	7. 0. 0.
Perkin, Lewis	2	12	682	
Peake, John	1	52	698	
Perkin, James	1	82	684	
Pickin, Acton	1	55	666	
Pilsberry, Wm., jun.	1	18	681	
Pigott, John	-	-	1,089	Sam. Harding.
Pierce, Pearson Joseph	1	51	688	
Pilsbury, Lewis	1	73	709	
Pilbury, Lewis	2	13	668	
Planch, John	1	75	680	
Poole, Thomas	1	40	664	
Pugh, William	1	57	713	
Ratcliffe, Francis	1	125	744	
Reddin, George	1	79	733	
Reddin, William	1	133	748	
Robins, William	2	67	745	£10. by Order Mr. Painter.
Robinson, John	1	175	732	
Rochelle, Samuel	1	176	739	
Rowley, George	-	-	747	Sam. Harding.
Rowbotham, Wm.	1	117	737	
Rose, George	1	98	742	
Rowbotham, Geo., sen.	1	116	719	
Russell, John, jun.	1	138	738	
Russel, John	1	72	722	
Rushton, Job	1	78	730	
Ryley, James	1	60	726	
Ryley, Samuel	2	26	735	
Ryley, Richard	1	77	741	
Ryley, Michael	1	68	721	
Salloway, Edward	1	135	829	
Salt, Richard	-	-	1,109	S. U. House K.
Salt, James, jun.	1	187	828	
Salt, Samuel	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Sargeant, Henry	1	192	815	
Sellers, Lamech	-	-	1,106	Sam. Harding.
Sellers, Sampson	2	80	773	Monday, £8.
Shelley, John	1	91	757	
Shenton, John	-	-	752	Sam. Harding, 3. 0. 0.
Shaw, William	-	-	808	Sam. Harding, House K.
Shaw, William	1	127	834	
Shenton, John, jun.	1	198	791	
Shaw, Henry	1	146	842	
Shenton, Stephen, jun.	1	153	768	
Shelley, Thomas	-	-	1,112	S. U. House K.
Shockledge, Thomas	1	136	832	
Shirley, William	1	126	807	
Shirley, John	1	102	772	
Shenton, Stephen	2	20	—	
Sinnester, Thomas	1	148	838	
Simpble, Richard	-	-	1,120	Sam. Harding. Bostock. Order, £5. House K.

NAME UPON TICKET.	No. of Seals.	No. in Black Ink.	No. in Red Ink.	SIGNATURES and INDORSEMENTS, &c.
Simpson, John	1	129	817	
Simpson, James	1	128	816	
Silvester, James	1	106	755	
Slater, John	-	-	835	Sam. Harding.
Slinn, Michael	1	119	778	
Slater, Thomas	2	26	818	
Smith, James	2	21	765	
Smith, Robert Willis	1	193	830	
Smith, Charles	-	-	-	House.
Smith, Thomas	1	170	788	
Smith, Daniel	-	-	1,121	Sam. Harding, House K.
Smith, Thomas	1	120	783	
Smith, Wm. Henry	1	164	810	
Smith, Frederick	1	169	819	
Simpson, Thomas	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Smallman, Thomas	-	-	1,113	Sam. Harding, Monday, £4.
Snake, Thomas	1	188	797	
Snake, Nathaniel	1	103	750	
Snake, Edward	1	130	826	
Snape, John	1	121	790	
Snape, William	1	89	754	
Souter, Walter	1	111	751	
Spilsbery, John	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Spilsbery, Joseph	2	48	799	7.
Spilsbery, James	1	137	833	
Spilsbery, John	1	110	761	
Stevenson, Charles	1	177	836	
Stringer, Thomas	1	174	803	
Stokes, Samuel	2	22	776	
Stokes, Thomas	1	134	827	
Stokes, John	1	131	786	
Stanton, Wm., jun.	1	115	774	
Stanton, Edward	1	90	756	
Stanton, Joseph	2	25	792	
Stanton, William	1	179	840	
Stanton, John	2	29	781	
Stanton, John	1	122	—	
Stanley, Thomas	1	147	839	
Stomer, William	1	156	837	
Stubbs, Thomas	1	124	795	
Sutton, Thomas	1	123	794	
Swindell, William	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Taylor, John	1	186	861	
Taylor, Thomas	1	199	866	
Taylor, Samuel	1	168	868	
Taylor, James	-	-	1,129	S. U.
Tavvener, Henry	1	157	869	
Tavener, Elias	1	235	870	
Tagg, John	1	161	852	
Tagg, John	1	263	888	
Thorp, Edward	1	226	864	
Thorpe, George	1	184	854	
Thorpe, Joseph	1	181	856	
Thorp, Robert	1	266	879	
Thomas, Thomas	-	-	1,127	Sam. Harding.
Thornton, Thomas	2	35	875	
Tildesley, Rich., jun.	1	254	858	
Tildesley, John	1	173	873	
Tildesley, John	1	191	873	
Till, William	2	36	883	
Till, John	1	181	849	
Tooth, James	1	264	845	
Tonks, John	1	172	855	
Tonks, William	1	255	890	
Tonks, Richard	1	178	847	
Tonks, George	2	32	892	
Tooth, John	2	34	867	
Turner, George	-	-	853	Sam. Harding.

8 July 1836.

NAME UPON TICKET.	No. of Seals.	No. in Black Ink.	No. in Red Ink.	SIGNATURES and INDORSEMENTS, &c.
Trigge, Thomas	1	265	880	
Turnock, Edward	-	-	1,123	Sam. Harding.
Uncles, John	1	190	898	
Underhill, William	-	-	1,130	S. U.
Underhill, George	2	42	901	7.
Venables, Thomas	1	252	900	
Venables, Joseph	1	249	903	
Venables, Thomas	1	228	899	
Ward, Thomas	1	158	945	
Wardell, Thomas	1	212	968	
Ward, John	1	256	965	
Ward, George	1	236	973	
Ward, James	-	-	-	S. U.
Wardell, Robert	1	245	964	
Watwood, Thomas	1	222	931	
Wardell, Thomas	1	239	968	
Waltham, Jonathan	-	-	-	Sam. Harding.
Westbrook, John	1	163	954	
Westbrook, Samuel	1	250	915	
Westbrook, Thomas	1	186	957	
Whiston, Thomas	-	-	1,136	S. U.
Weatham, John	—	—	—	
Whitehead, James	1	243	966	
Windsor, John	1	208	969	
Wildig, John	1	257	926	
Wilkes, John	1	247	959	
Wilshaw, Charles	-	-	928	Samuel Harding.
Wilson, Thomas	1	234	971	
Williams, Thomas	-	-	967	Samuel Harding.
Wilks, Josh.	-	-	-	S. U.
Wood. Edward	1	217	910	
Wood, Thomas	1	166	924	
Wood, John	2	38	933	6. 10. 0.
Wood, John	1	207	950	
Wood, Thomas	1	248	922	
Wood, Francis	1	167	962	
Wood, Thomas	-	-	955	Samuel Harding.
Woollams, James	1	258	936	
Worsey, John	1	159	904	
Woodwise, Peter	2	64	982	7. 0. 0.
Wooolridge, Thomas	1	240	970	
Workington, James	1	200	946	
Wright, Thomas	2	37	943	
Wynne, William	1	246	961	
Wynne, William	1	237	917	
Wynne, Robert	1	223	920	
Wynne, Francis, jun.	1	117	917	
Wynne, William, sen.	-	-	939	Samuel Harding.
Wynne, John	-	-	-	S. U.
Young, William	-	-	-	Samuel Harding.

Tickets subsequently delivered in, and recognized by Mr. Harding, June 27.

Edwards, John	2	58	-	7. 0. 0.
Finlow, Thomas	1	201	—	
Follows, Thomas	2	68	-	7.
Harvey, William	2	78	-	£10. Wm. Harvey.
Moreton, John	1	5	—	
Orton, John	1	29	—	
Parker, George	1	76	—	
Ryly, Richard	1	74	—	
Vickers, Henry	2	40	-	6. 0. 0.

LIST delivered in by WILLIAM BIDDULPH, containing 618 Names.

NAMES.	SUMS. £. s.	NAMES.	SUMS. £. s.	NAMES.	SUMS. £. s.
Adams, Robert	2 10	Bladon, Thomas	2 10	Cook, Henry Buckle	2 10
Adams, William	2 10	Blakeman, Thomas Green	2 10	Cook, Richard	2 10
Adams, Robert	2 10	Bladon, John	2 10	Cook, John	5 0
Adams, William	2 10	Blakeman, John	2 10	Cook, Daniel	2 10
Allcock, Samuel, sen.	2 10	Blakemore, William Green	2 10	Cook, Thomas, Son of John	2 10
Allcock, James	5 0	Bott, Benjamin	2 10	Cook, Henry	2 10
Allen, John	2 10	Bott, John	5 0	Coats, John	2 10
Allen, James, son of William	2 10	Bott, John	2 10	Coldfield, Thomas	2 10
Allen, William	2 10	Bott, James	2 10	Corker, Daniel	2 10
Allen, James	2 10	Bott, Edward, sen.	2 10	Corker, Thomas	2 10
Allen, Henry	2 10	Bott, Henry	2 10	Cooper, Chamber Peter	2 10
Allen, Thomas	5 0	Bolt, Charles	2 10	Cornwell, William, jun.	5 0
Allen, William, sen.	2 10	Bott, Thomas	2 10	Collier, Robert	2 10
Allen, James	2 10	Boulton, Thomas	2 10	Collier, John	2 10
Ansell, George	2 10	Boot, John	2 10	Cornwell, William, sen.	2 10
Ansell, James	2 10	Bould, Thomas Blind	2 10	Critchley, Wm., son of Sam.	2 10
Arrowsmith, Richard	2 10	Bould, Thomas	5 0	Critchley, James	2 10
Ast, Charles	2 10	Bould, John	5 0	Critchley, John Union	2 10
Astbury, John	2 10	Bould, William Tiger	2 10	Critchley, Henry	2 10
Andrews, Thomas	5 0	Booth, William	5 0	Creer, Robert, sen.	2 10
Aston, Abraham	2 10	Brooce, John	5 0	Croxon, Joseph	2 10
Aston, Henry	2 10	Brooce, Thomas	2 10	Crutchley, William (Adam)	2 10
Ash, Aden	2 10	Booth, William	5 0	Day, John, sen.	5 0
Austin, William	2 10	Boydon, John	2 10	Day, John, jun.	2 10
Austin, Thomas	2 10	Boulton, Robert	2 10	Day, Thos. Brock (Adams)	5 0
		Boulton, Thomas	2 10	Day, Henry	2 10
Bagwell, John	2 10	Boulton, John	2 10	Day, Francis	2 10
Bayley, William	2 10	Bonell, James	2 10	Day, John, son of William	2 10
Barrett, William	2 10	Bratt, Francis	2 10	Day, George	2 10
Bankes, George	2 10	Brassington, Henry	2 10	Day, Thomas, son of Thomas	2 10
Barnet, William	5 0	Brassington, Edward	2 10	Day, William, sen.	2 10
Bankes, George	2 10	Bradbury, Thomas	2 10	Day, Thomas, son of William	2 10
Barker, Edward	2 10	Bromley, George	2 10	Dale, Philip	2 10
Bates, John	5 0	Brookes, Edward	2 10	Dale, William, son of John	2 10
Baggerley, William	2 10	Bromley, Thomas	2 10	Dale, Jos.	2 10
Bailey, William	2 10	Bromley, John	2 10	Dawson, Edward	2 10
Bayley, Moses	2 10	Brown, Thomas	2 10	Danes, John (Crabbing)	5 0
Bee, William (not P.)	2 10	Brown, William	5 0	Dawson, Edward	2 10
Bee, Theo.	2 10	Brough, William	2 10	Dawson, Samuel	2 10
Bee, Richard	2 10	Bridgen, Richard	2 10	Dabson, James	2 10
Bee, John	2 10	Bullock, James	2 10	Dean, William	2 10
Bee, William	2 10	Bullock, Thomas	2 10	Dearn, William	2 10
Beech, William, sen.	2 10	Bullock, Thos., son of Isaiah	2 10	Devenhall, Charles	2 10
Bennett, Thomas	2 10	Bullock, Abram	2 10	Deakin, George	2 10
Bennett, John	2 10	Bullock, Richard	2 10	Dean, John	2 10
Bentley, William Bluebeard	2 10	Buttler, James	2 10	Deakin, John	2 10
Beech, William Thomas	2 10	Buxton, Joseph	5 0	Devall, James	2 10
Bentley, William Sale	2 10	Burton, John	2 10	Dickins,	2 10
Bealey, James John	2 10	Butler, Richard	2 10	Dickenson, William	2 10
Beech, Samuel	5 0			Dickinson, Benjamin	2 10
Beaman, Richard, jun.	2 10	Careless, John	2 10	Dickinson, Thomas	2 10
Bentley, William Swan	2 10	Careless, Thomas	2 10	Dood, John	2 10
Beamont, Richard	5 0	Careless, Edward	2 10	Draycott, Thomas	2 10
Beech, James, sen.	2 10	Careless, Josh.	2 10	Dudley, William	2 10
Beckett, John	2 10	Carless, James	2 10	Dudley, Thomas, son of John	2 10
Birch, H.	2 10	Cartwright, Walter	2 10	Dudley, James, sen.	2 10
Birch, John	2 10	Carter, John	2 10	Dudley, Thomas, sen.	2 10
Birch, Edward	2 10	Cadman, Robert	2 10	Dudley, Charles (as present)	2 10
Bickerton, William	2 10	Calkin, Samuel	2 10	Dutton, Charles, sen.	2 10
Bickerton, John	2 10	Charlesworth, Thomas	2 10	Dutton, Charles, jun.	2 10
Birtles, John	2 10	Chapman, John	2 10	Dych, William	2 10
Bird, Thomas	2 10	Chidley, John	2 10		
Bishop, Robert	2 10	Chattel, George	2 10	Earp, Thomas	2 10
Biddle, Henry	2 10	Chedley, John, sen.	2 10	Ebberley, Jos., jun.	2 10
Bill, Benjamin	2 10	Clarke, James Knight	2 10	Ebberley, Richard	2 10
Bill, Richard	2 10	Clewlow, Charles	2 10	Ebberley, John, sen.	2 10
Bill, John	5 0	Clewlow, Jos.	2 10	Eccleston, James	2 10
Biddulph, William	5 0	Clewlow, John	2 10	Eccleston, John	2 10
Biddulph, John	5 0	Cotterill, William	2 10	Eley, Joseph	2 10
Biddulph, George	2 10	Cotterill, Samuel	2 10	Emberton, Eph.	2 10
Biddle, John	2 10	Cotterill, Matthew	2 10	Emberton, Thomas	2 10
Bladen, John, jun.	2 10	Cotterill, John	2 10	Emery, Edward	2 10
Blakemore, Richard	2 10	Cook, John Hales	2 10	Emery, William, sen.	2 10

List delivered in by William Biddulph—*continued.*

NAMES.	SUMS. £. s.	NAMES.	SUMS. £. s.	NAMES.	SUMS. £. s.
Fernyhough, John	2 10	Harvey, Robert	2 10	Mitchell, John Green	2 10
Ferneyhough, George	5 0	Harris, Jos.	2 10	Mitchell, William	2 10
Findlow, Thomas, jun.	5 0	Harvey, Thos. Blacksmith	2 10	Mills, George	2 10
Findlow, Thomas, sen.	2 10	Hales, George Handall	2 10	Mills, Jos.	5 0
Findlow, William, sen.	5 0	Heath, Francis	2 10	Moore, George Nath. Hope	2 10
Findlow, John, son of Thos.	2 10	Heath, Thomas	2 10	Moore, George	2 10
Findlow, William, sen.	2 10	Heath, Thomas	2 10	Moore, Charles	2 10
Fisher, Thomas	2 10	Heath, John	2 10	Moore, William	2 10
Fisher, James	2 10	Hill, Thomas	5 0	Moore, Richard	2 10
Follows, John Duckey	2 10	Hill, Edward	2 10	Moore, John	2 10
Follows, Samuel, sen.	2 10	Holdford, Frederick	2 10	Moore, James	2 10
Follows, George	2 10	Hodson, son of Richard	2 10	Moore, Thomas	2 10
Follows, Thomas Phœnix	2 10	Hodgson, Josh.	2 10	Moreley, William	5 0
Follows, Samuel, jun.	2 10	Hodson, John, sen.	2 10	Moreton, Thos., son of John	2 10
Follows, Thos., chairmaker	2 10	Hodson, John	5 —	Moreton, Matthew	2 10
Follows, Thomas, sen.	2 10	Hodgson, Wm., son of Wm.	2 10	Morton, Francis	2 10
Follows, Jacob	2 10	Hodson, John, Tanner	5 0	Morton, John	2 10
Follows, John, sen.	5 0	Horn, Edward	2 10	Mountford, William	2 10
Ford, John	5 0	Horne, Robert	2 10	Mountford, Richard	2 10
Ford, John Skilly	2 10	Holmes, Joseph	2 10	Mountford, Richard	2 10
Frantz, Charles	2 10	Hollis, Wm., son of Walter	2 10	Mountford, Thomas	2 10
Fritt, James, sen.	2 10	Hodgkins, William	2 10	Mountford, Richard	2 10
Fritt, James, jun.	2 10	Hughes, John, Farmer	2 10	Mountford, John	2 10
		Hurd, Joseph	2 10	Mountford, Richard	2 10
Gallimin, Thomas	2 10				
Gilbert, John, sen.	2 10				
Gilbert, William Milbank	2 10	Insley, Thomas	2 10	Nebit, George	2 10
Glover, John	5 0	Insley, William, sen.	2 10	Nevitt, Thomas	2 10
Goodwin, Abraham	2 10	Insley, Charles	2 10	Nevitt, Charles	2 10
Godwin, William, son of John	2 10			Nevitt, Robert	2 10
Godwin, John, son of Wm.	2 12	Jenkinson, Henry	2 10	Newbold, Robert	2 10
Goodwin, James Greenford	2 10	Jennings, George	2 10	Nickson, William	2 10
Godwin, John, son of Wm.	2 10	Johnson, William	2 10	Nickson, George	2 10
Godwin, James, son of Jos.	2 10	Johnson, William Norman	2 10	Norcop, William	5 0
Goodwin, Richard	2 10	Johnson, Jos., son of Isa.	2 10	Norcop, George	2 10
Glover, John Green	2 10	Johnson, Jas. Garden	2 10	Nutt, John	2 10
Glover, William	2 10	Jones, Richard	2 10		
Goodall, John	2 10	Jones, Robert, constable	2 10	Orton, John	2 10
Goodall, Henry	2 10			Owen, John	2 10
Goodall, Henry	2 10	Kenderdine, John, son of Benj.	2 10		
Grattidge, William	2 10	Kenderdine, Benj.	2 10	Padmore, John	2 10
Green, George	5 0	Kenderdine, John, sen.	2 10	Padmore, William	2 10
Green, Thomas	2 10	Kenderdine, William, Gaol	2 10	Padmore, William Thomas	2 10
Greenwood, Henry	2 10	Kenderdine, James	2 10	Padmore, Wm., son of Jas.	2 10
Greenhough, Thomas	2 10	Kenderdine, Edward	5 0	Parker, George	2 10
Grepton, Thomas	2 10	Keen, Thomas	2 10	Parker, William	2 10
Grimes, John	2 10	Kent, William	2 10	Parker, William Green	2 10
Griffin, William	2 10	Kent, James	2 10	Parker, Thomas	2 10
Guest, John	2 10	Keogh, John	2 10	Parker, William	2 10
Guest, Thomas	2 10	Kingstone, John	2 10	Parker, Thomas	2 10
				Pattison, James	2 10
Hall, Lewis	2 10	Lakin, Charles, jun.	2 10	Pattison, John	5 0
Hall, Thomas Colledge	5 0	Laken, Robert	2 10	Parkes, T. W.	2 10
Hall, Charles	2 10	Lander, Thomas, jun.	2 10	Painter, Cook Richard	2 10
Hall, George Murry	2 10	Lander, Thomas, sen.	2 10	Parr, Thomas	2 10
Hall, Omar	2 10	Langley, John	2 10	Pearsall, Josh	2 10
Hall, Henry Cutler	5 0	Lawley, John	2 10	Peach, George	2 10
Hand, John	2 10	Lees, Joseph	2 10	Pearce, William	5 0
Hatt, Henry	2 10	Lees, John	2 10	Perkin, John Saudon (not P.)	5 0
Hawkins, John Stone	5 0	Lloyd, William, jun.	2 10	Perkin, James Tuddle	2 10
Hawkins, John	2 10	Lloyd, John, son of William	2 10	Perkins, Jas., son of Wm.	5 0
Hawkins, Michael	2 10	Lloyd, Edward	2 10	Perkin, John	5 0
Hawkins, Samuel, sen.	2 10	Lowe, John G.	2 10	Perkins, James, son of John	2 10
Hawkins, Charles	2 10	Lowe, James	2 10	Perry, William	2 10
Hawkins, George	5 0			Pedley, William	2 10
Hawkins, John	2 10	Machin, Francis	2 10	Peugh, William	2 10
Haywood, Robert	2 10	Martin, Thomas	2 10	Pigot, John	2 10
Haywood, William	2 10	Marson, Francis	2 10	Pickin, Edward	2 10
Hart, Richard Parker	2 10	Machin, Charles	2 10	Pickin, Actor	2 10
Hart, John	2 10	Machin, Josia	2 10	Pickin, Thos. Churchyard	5 0
Hammersley, Thomas B.	2 10	Matthews, Edward	2 10	Pilsbury, George	2 10
Hammersley, Edward	2 10	Meeson, Richard	2 10	Pilsbury, Lewis	2 10
Harding, William	2 10	Meeson, James Rabbit Arse	2 10	Phillips, John	5 0
Harding, William	2 10	Melton, Jos.	5 0	Phillips, Francis	5 0
		Meeson, Richard	2 10	Phillips, William	2 10

List delivered in by William Biddulph—*continued.*

NAMES.	SUMS.	NAMES.	SUMS.	NAMES.	SUMS.
	£. s.		£. s.		£. s.
Plant, John	2 10	Stanton, Thomas Stanley	2 10	Wardle, Thomas	2 10
Pool, Thomas	2 10	Stanton, Joseph	2 10	Ward, John, son of John	2 10
Potts, Samuel	2 10	Stanton, Edward	2 10	Ward, Thomas	2 10
		Stanton, Wm., son of Edw.	2 10	Ward, John Henry	5 0
Ray, Samuel	2 10	Stanton, William	2 10	Ward, George, jun.	2 10
Ratcliff, Francis	2 10	Stevenson, Charles	2 10	Ward, William Allong	2 10
Ridden, William	2 10	Stanley, Thomas	2 10	Warner, John Duke	2 10
Ridding, George	2 10	Stubbs, Thomas	2 10	Welton, John	2 10
Robitham, Wm. Bach.	2 10	Stokes, Thomas	2 10	Welton George	2 10
Robitham, Wm., son of Jno.	2 10	Stomer, Richard	2 10	Wentbrook, John	2 10
Rogers, James	2 10	Stomer, William	2 10	Wentbrook, Samuel	2 10
Rogers Wm. Unicorn	2 10	Stringer, Thomas	2 10	Wentbrook, Thomas	2 10
Rose, John	2 10	Sutton, John, tailor	2 10	Wetherogg, John	2 10
Rogers, Moses	2 10	Sutton, John, butcher	2 10	Welkeren, William	2 10
Rushton, Job	2 10	Sutton, Thomas	2 10	Whitehead, James	2 10
Russell, John	2 10	Swift, Thomas, tailor	5 0	Whistame George	2 10
Ryley, Richard	2 10	Swift, William	5 0	Whistone, Thomas	2 10
Ryley, Michael	2 10	Swift, John	5 0	Wiltshire, Charles	2 10
Ryley, Jos.	2 10			Williams, Thomas	2 10
Ryley, Rich., son of Samuel	2 10	Tavvenor, George	2 10	Wildis, John	2 10
Ryley, James	2 10	Tavener, Henry	2 10	Williams, Thomas	2 10
		Tavenor, Richard	5 0	Wilson, Thomas	2 10
Salt, Richard	2 10	Taylor, Thomas	2 10	Wilson, John T.	5 0
Salt, Richard	2 10	Taylor, Joseph	2 10	Williams, Thomas	2 10
Salt, Samuel	2 10	Taylor, James, jun.	5 0	Wilkes, Thomas, butcher	2 10
Salt, John	2 10	Taylor, William, jun.	5 0	Wickstead George	2 10
Salt, James	5 0	Taylor, Joseph, sen.	2 10	Wielden, William	2 10
Salt, James, jun.	2 10	Taylor, John, son of Samuel	2 10	Windsor, John	2 10
Savernor, Elias	2 10	Talbot, Richard	2 10	Wood, Jos. jun.	2 10
Salaway, Edward	2 10	Tagg, William, sen.	2 10	Wood, George	2 10
Sharrott, Sampson	2 10	Tagg, John, jun.	2 10	Wood, John	2 10
Shaw, John, Red Lion	2 10	Tagg, John, sen.	2 10	Wood, Francis	2 10
Shaw, John	2 10	Tagg, James	2 10	Wood, Thomas, soldier	2 10
Shaw, Wm., barber	2 10	Targit, William	2 10	Wood, Thos., son of Benj.	2 10
Shaw, Henry	2 10	Tildesley, Wm., son of John	5 0	Wood, Thos. Mayor, serj.	2 10
Shaw, William	2 10	Tildesley, John, sen.	2 10	Wood, George	5 0
Shenton, Wm., son of John.	2 10	Tildesley, Wm. son of Rich.	5 0	Wood, William Barnet	2 10
Shelly, Thomas, Union. P.	2 10	Tildesley, son of John	5 0	Wotwood, Thos., son of John	2 10
Shenton, John	2 10	Tildesley, John, son of Rich.	2 10	Wotwood, William	2 10
Shelly, John	2 10	Tildesley, Richard, jun.	2 10	Worthington, James	2 10
Shirly, William	2 10	Tildesley, James	5 0	Wollams, James	2 10
Shirley, John, sen.	2 10	Till, Thomas, sen.	2 10	Worsey, John	2 10
Shockledge, Thomas	2 10	Tile, Francis	2 10	Woolrich, Thomas	2 10
Silvester, Jos.	2 10	Till, Thomas, jun.	2 10	Woolley, Thomas, sen.	2 10
Silvester Robert, sen.	2 10	Till, John, Cross Keys	2 10	Wright, William	2 10
Sinnister, Thomas	2 10	Tilcherley, Thomas	5 0	Wynne, Robert, Coventry	5 0
Simpole, Richard	2 10	Thorpe, George	2 10	Wynne, Robert	2 10
Simpson Michael	5 0	Thorpe, Robert	2 10	Wynn, Wm., son of Wm.	2 10
Simpson, Thos., son of Mich.	2 10	Thomas, Thomas	2 10	Wynn, Francis, jun.	4 0
Simpson, John	2 10	Thompson, Wm., son of Wm.	2 10	Wynn, Wm., son of Francis	2 10
Simpson, James	2 10	Thompson, Thomas	2 10	Wynn, William, sen.	2 10
Slinn, Michael	2 10	Thompson, William, sen.	2 10	Wynn, John, son of Wm.	2 10
Smith, Daniel, maltster	2 10	Tonkes, John	2 10	Wynn, Francis, sen	2 10
Smith Jas., Market Place (2d)	2 10	Tonkes, Richard	2 10		
Smith, Richard F.	2 10	Tonkes, William	2 10	Young, William	2 10
Smith, Thomas	2 10	Toote, John Snagal	2 10		
Smith, Robert	2 10	Tortoiseshell, Benjamin	2 10	Paid to Doorkeepers, when repaying the money	4 10
Smith, Thomas	2 10	Tool, James	2 10	Paid Lawton, Commissary	0 10
Smith, Wm. son of Chas.	2 10	Trickley, James	2 10	Dear, William, extra for swearing	1 15
Smith, James, Market Place	2 10	Trigger, Thomas	2 10		
Smallman, Thomas	2 10	Turnoch, Edward	2 10		
Snape, Richard, son of Wm.	5 0				
Snape, Wm. Swift	2 10	Uncles, John	2 10		
Snape, Edward Swift	2 10	Underhil, William	2 10	From Mr. Dawson	299 10
Snape, Stephen	5 0			From Stevenson	150 0
Snape, John	2 10	Venables, Josh.	2 10	From Swift	25 0
Snape, Nathaniel	2 10	Venables, Thomas	2 10		
Southall, Walter	2 10	Vickers, Michael	2 10	£	474 10
Somerfield, Francis, baker	2 10				
Spilsbury, John	2 10	Wardle, Thomas	2 10		
Stanton, John, son of Wm.	2 10	Wardle, Robert	2 10		

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Mr. *Austin* stated, that, having concluded the evidence relative to the last election and the election in 1832, he proposed, if the House should think proper, to go into evidence respecting the election of 1831, the next immediately preceding.

The Counsel being asked to what period he proposed to go back, Mr. Austin stated that he proposed to go back to the election in 1826.

The Counsel were directed to withdraw.

The Counsel were again called in, and directed to proceed.

Charles Henry Webb was again called in, and further Examined as follows:

Charles H. Webb.

Mr. *Austin.*] YOU are a solicitor at Stafford?—I am.

Do you remember the election of 1831?—Yes.

Who were the candidates at that election?—Mr. Campbell, Mr. Gisborne and Mr. Hawkes.

Were you concerned in the election?—I acted as a friend of Mr. Campbell's.

By a Lord.] Is the Mr. Campbell you mention now Sir John Campbell, the Attorney-General?—Yes.

Mr. *Austin.*] Did you act gratuitously for Mr. Campbell?—Yes.

Where did Mr. Campbell's committee meet, if he had a committee?—His house was at the Star; but I do not think that he had any committee.

You have been a good deal engaged in Stafford elections; do you ever recollect any candidate having a committee in Stafford?—I really do not know what a committee means.

Is it not avoided?—Not to my knowledge.

Where did they meet?—Sir John Campbell's house was the Star.

Was there any arrangement before the election with respect to the mode of conducting it?—Yes.

Was there any arrangement with respect to the money that was proposed to be expended upon the election?—Yes.

How much money, if any, was proposed to be expended upon the election?—Two thousand pounds.

Was not it known to the parties making the arrangement that the 2,000*l.* was to be spent in whole or in part in bribery?—In case of Sir John's return, it was.

Was the money lodged with any bank?—It was lodged in the joint names of myself, Mr. Whitcomb, who is dead, and Mr. John Henson Webb.

Payable to your cheque?—Payable to our joint cheque.

Do you remember the evening before the poll?—Yes.

Did you come to any resolution on that evening with respect to the sums that were to be paid to the electors?—Yes, with respect to a part.

What was that?—I must give my explanation if I am to give an answer to the question.

Did you come to an arrangement as to paying any part of the money to the electors?—Yes.

How much was to be paid?—One pound and two pounds; to depend upon whether the elector gave him a split vote or a plumper.

Was that to be a whole or a partial payment?—It was to be a payment to those parties that chose to take it.

Was that to be a whole payment?—No.

Only an advance; money down?—Yes.

Is that phrase known in Stafford, "money down," or "sum down?"—No, no; not that I am aware of.

On what day did the poll begin?—I really cannot recollect.

Was it on Friday?—If I refer to the poll-book I can tell.

Just look at the poll-book?—It was Friday the 29th of April.

How long did it last?—Two days.

Friday and Saturday?—Yes.

Do you know of a public-house called the Cock, kept by one Ward?—Yes.

Did you go to that place on Friday morning?—Yes.

Did you take any rooms there, or had you taken them?—I had two rooms there.

Who

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Who kept the inner room?—I believe part of the time it was kept by a person of the name of William Fowke.

The inner room?—No, the outer room; the inner room myself.

Fowke had charge of the outer room?—Some part of the time; but whether the whole time I cannot tell.

Do you know who else had charge of it?---No, I do not.

After you had taken possession of that room did the voters come?—Yes.

In numbers?—Never more than one at a time.

How long did they keep coming?—All day on Friday and part of Saturday.

How many might come; do you know?—Very nearly 500, I should think; not quite 500; about 490.

What did you do when they came?—If they came into the inner room I paid them a sovereign, or two sovereigns, which it might be.

According to what rule?—There was no rule laid down.

How came you to give one man a sovereign and another two?—It was intimated to me in some way or other; but I really forget.

Do you remember that you had some direction?—Yes.

That was not done by blind caprice?—No.

There was a reason for giving one man one and the other two?—Yes.

What was the reason?—The reason was, that those who voted a plumper had two sovereigns, and all those who gave split votes only one.

Did they all come in?—Yes.

Did they give you the checks?—Not to me; they might to Mr. Fowke; but I do not know that.

How did they find their entrance into that inner room?—If they passed through Mr. Fowke's room they got admission to mine as a matter of course.

This went on during the whole of the two days?—The whole of the first day, I should say, and part of the second day.

Till Mr. Campbell was secure?—Yes.

Was the payment notorious in the borough?—I believe it was.

Do you know how much money you paid yourself?—Do you mean in the whole? nearly 2,100*l.*

How much money did you pay to the electors in the way you describe?—I should think about 520*l.*; a few pounds over or under.

It was paid in this room?—Yes.

Do you know how much money you paid in bribery?—I do not know what you mean by that.

How much money did you give to the voters altogether, including every thing?—I should think about 2,100*l.*

Were the payments to voters concluded on the second day of the election?—No.

Did you pay them any further sums after that?—Yes.

When?—About three months afterwards.

How much did you pay them then?—Those that had received 1*l.* I paid 2*l.* 10*s.*, and those that had received 2*l.* I paid 4*l.* in addition, making 6*l.* and 3*l.* 10*s.*

That was, I suppose, for a plumper or a split vote respectively?—Yes.

How did the voters know where to come for that payment, made three months after the election?—I do not know, I am sure, how it was then known to them.

It was known, however?—Yes.

Where was it paid?—At a house called the Talbot.

The voters came to the Talbot, and you paid the money?—Yes.

How did you know whether they were voters or not?—I did not know of my own knowledge whether they were voters or not, but there were several in the room who knew them well.

There were several persons in the room that knew their persons?—I presume they did, or they would not have let me pay them.

Did you gather from the persons standing round that the persons applying were voters?—Yes.

You had confidence in the persons standing round that they knew they were voters?—Yes.

Did you keep a book of the payments?—Yes.

Did you enter the names in it?—I think the names were entered before I took it to the Talbot, and that I ticked them off.

Did you keep a book of the payments made at the time of the election?—Mr. Fowke did; there are some few entries inmy own handwriting, but not many.

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Have you Mr. Fowke's book here?—I have.

Have you the other book too?—Yes.

Where did you get Mr. Fowke's book?—It was given up to me at the time.

And you have had it in your possession ever since?—Yes.

Did you observe the character of the persons who came up for payment as to their respectability in life?—They were the general class of voters in Stafford; it was before the 10*l.* householders were established.

There are amongst the freemen in Stafford many persons who hold 10*l.* houses?—There are some.

Do you know how many?—I cannot tell.

Were there such persons before the Reform Act passed, in the year 1831?—Yes.

Did any of those persons apply to you for money?—Yes.

Many?—I cannot tell how many.

Did you observe whether there were many?—It is impossible for me to tell; I have no doubt there are, but I cannot tell the number.

Were there several persons of that character who applied to you for money?—Yes, there were.

Ten pound householders, who received the payment?—Yes.

Did that excite your surprise, that persons in that condition of life should accept it?—Yes; as to some of them, it did.

I ask you that question because I see you have made the observation elsewhere. Do you happen to know whether those persons who then occupied 10*l.* houses had been voters before the Reform Bill?—Some of them, no doubt.

You know it?—Yes; but I cannot tell whether they are registered as freemen or householders.

Will you produce the books?

[*The Witness produces the same.*

Which is Fowke's book?—This is it; I believe it is his handwriting. [*Delivering in the same.*]

Do you know Fowke's handwriting?—I do not.

Is Fowke here?—I do not know, I am sure.

Did he give you this book?—I believe he did. There is some of my own handwriting in it; I believe the rest to be his.

You do not know how those entries were made?—No; they were made in another room.

Do you believe they were made in the other room?—I have no doubt of it, for they were given me each night. That is the first day, going so far. [*Pointing it out.*]

How came those ticks to be made against the names?—I really cannot tell.

Did you pay to Fowke the two gross sums at the end?—I really cannot tell; it came out of the 2,000*l.* that was deposited, I believe.

Can you inform their lordships how those two large sums were paid; one at the end of the first day, and the other at the end of the second?—No, I cannot, to my recollection.

Did you give a sum of money to Fowke?—I might; I really cannot say.

By a Lord.] You paid the money yourself?—Yes; I paid the voters the money; he merely kept the book.

Mr. *Austin.*] How did Fowke know how much was paid to each voter?—It was an arrangement that the voter that gave a split vote should have a pound, and the man that gave a plumper should have two pounds.

He kept the book in the outer room, and you paid the money?—Yes.

How did you know that the money he entered corresponded with the sum you gave?—That I cannot tell.

Did you cast up the book?—I did.

Was it correct?—Yes.

The total sums on the two days corresponded with the money that you paid? Yes.

Is that the book you had at the Talbot?—Yes.

Those names were entered before the money was paid?—I believe this book was made out before I went to the Talbot.

As the persons came to the Talbot for the money did you make an entry in the figure columns?—No; simply ticked them off; the columns were filled up.

The book was in its present state, except that you added a tick?—Yes.

And

And those alterations that have been made in the figures?—Yes.

Is this the book from which you paid the money?—Yes.

In whose writing is it?—Mine.

Are the ticks your own ticks?—Yes.

How was this book made? You say it is a copy; from what was it a copy?—I took it from this book [*the book first produced*], and from the poll-book.

Do I understand you that before you made the payments and the ticks you compared the names of the voters for Mr. Campbell?—With a very few exceptions.

There are some added at the end?—Yes.

With those exceptions, did it contain the names of all who voted for Mr. Campbell?—Not all.

How many were omitted?—I should think about five-and-twenty.

Do I understand you to say there are only twenty-five persons who voted for Mr. Campbell on the poll whose names are not on the book?—According as that list is made up there are only one-and-twenty; but I cannot swear to two or three.

When you had paid the money you made the tick against those two columns?—Yes.

One against the name, and the other against the figures?—Yes.

By a Lord.] Is there a sum of money opposite every name?—Yes, there is.

Mr. *Austin.*] There are two sets of figure columns; which is the first column?—The money paid on the day of the election.

And the second the money paid at the Talbot?—Yes.

By a Lord.] That was three months afterwards?—Yes.

Are those payments uniform, or do they vary in amount?—They are uniform.

Mr. *Austin.*] Were the original sums all uniform?—With respect to one or two, I think, there might be a few exceptions.

What are the pencil marks in this book?—They are merely my own handwriting; my own memorandums.

Were you well acquainted with the state of the constituency in Stafford at that time?—I was not.

Are you now?—Yes, better than I was then, a great deal.

Do you know how many of those freemen remain on the registry?—I cannot say.

You have never examined the register with that view?—No.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Do I understand you that His Majesty's Attorney-General arranged with you this system of bribery?—Yes; in the presence of Mr. Whitcombe.

Who is now dead, unfortunately?—Yes.

Had the Attorney-General been a candidate for Stafford before the year 1831?—I believe he had been at elections before 1831.

He had not been returned?—I think he was returned in 1830; but I am not sure.

Not in 1826?—I was not in Stafford in 1826.

Was the Attorney-General's plan for paying 1*l.* if it was a split vote, and 2*l.* for a plumper, and the remainder after he was returned, in order to secure his return as far as he could?—He had no chance of being returned at that election unless the money was paid.

It was arranged to pay part when the vote was given, and the remainder afterwards, so as to be a security for his return; that was his object?—Yes.

Did the Attorney-General arrange with you the particulars of the system of bribery, and show how it could be done, as to giving 1*l.* at the time, and the remainder to be paid afterwards?—If I recollect right, he mentioned to me the 1*l.* being advanced.

That was talked of?—Yes.

And where it should be paid?—No; I do not think the house was mentioned.

But how it should be paid?—Yes; that it should be paid as earnest.

And the remainder afterwards?—Yes; in case he was returned.

Did you deliver to the Attorney-General an account of the money that had been paid to the voters?—Yes; I sent him an account of all the names; a copy of that book, I believe.

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Was it the original or a copy you sent to him?—I believe it was a copy.

In short, you passed your account in the regular and ordinary way, each man's name, whether he was a split voter or a plumper, and the money he had received?—Yes.

And the gross amount also?—Yes; I sent a cash account.

Had you any conversation with the Attorney-General afterwards when he heard that you were summoned here as a witness?—I had a private interview with him.

I should like to know what passed upon that occasion?—Am I bound to answer that question?

When was that interview?—It was before I gave evidence in 1833.

When you had been summoned to appear?—I had been summoned to appear to give evidence.

Did the Attorney-General send to you, or did you go to him?—I went to him.

For what purpose did you go to him?—Am I bound to give the conversation?

I will not ask the conversation if you tell me it was between two gentlemen in confidence?—It was confidential.

Then I will not ask the particulars of it. Do you not know from the Attorney-General that when he first stood for Stafford there was no money given at all?—I was not there in 1826; I know nothing about it.

In 1830 was that the case?—I think I heard he gave none.

Do you recollect how many votes he polled in 1830?—I cannot say.

Several hundreds?—Yes; no doubt of that.

It was in 1831 he arranged this system of bribery?—Yes.

By a Lord.] Was he returned in 1830?—He was.

Was he returned in 1826?—No, not in 1826.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Was there a balance in your favour or against you on the 2,100 *l.*, after all these transactions had taken place?—There was a balance in my favour.

Did the Attorney-General remit that balance to you?—He did.

And closed that account?—Yes.

Did Mr. Thomas Hawkes, the present member for Dudley, stand also at that election of 1831?—He did.

Was not it notorious in Stafford that he did not pay a single shilling for a vote, and that he polled 476 voters?—It was.

At the time that the Attorney-General paid 536 out of 555?—Five hundred and thirty-five out of five hundred and fifty-six.

Did not Mr. Hawkes state that if paying a shilling for a vote would ensure his return he would not pay it, and notwithstanding that did he not poll 476?—That was the current report in the town.

What was the number of the third candidate, Mr. Gisborne?—Five hundred and twenty-two.

Was it not notorious also, that up to the middle of the first day Mr. Gisborne had not paid for a single vote?—We had the start three or four hours, I should think.

You mean the start in payment?—Yes.

The Attorney-General's start?—Mr. Campbell's.

The present Attorney-General?—Yes.

Is it your belief or not, that a gentleman connected with the county, who was brought forward by respectable gentlemen in the neighbourhood, would or would not, even in 1831, have had a very good chance of being returned without the payment of a shilling, that being the election in which Mr. Hawkes polled 476 without paying a shilling; a gentleman connected with the county, brought forward by gentlemen of influence?—Perhaps a gentleman with Mr. Gifford's influence might.

Suppose Mr. Hawkes had been brought forward by Mr. Gifford and Mr. Monkton, and gentlemen in that neighbourhood, is it your opinion he would have been returned?—Very likely he might.

Mr. Hawkes is a gentleman living at Dudley?—I believe he does, in the neighbourhood.

How long had the voters been at play at this election of 1831?—I cannot say; I really do not know.

Did the Attorney-General arrange with you the sum that those voters should be paid, the additional bonus?—No; the arrangement was with Mr. Whitcombe.

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He was a learned friend of ours, who is dead?—Yes.

He arranged between the Attorney-General and yourself the time the additional bonus should be paid?—I presume he did; I do not know of my own knowledge; Mr. Whitcombe arranged with me.

Did not Mr. Whitcombe act as the agent for the Attorney-General upon that occasion?—I believe he did.

Did not he come down to Stafford with him?—Yes.

Did not he stay with him and return with him?—Yes, he did.

Did you go round to canvass with the Attorney-General?—No.

How came you to make out this list of the persons that were to be paid?—That was after the election was over; that book was made out two months afterwards.

Have you any document by which you can show at the time what was paid?—None but this. [*His own book.*]

Do you mean to say this was written at the time?—Yes.

And this was written before they came in to be paid?—Yes.

Then it must have been made from the canvassing book?—I cannot say from what. I have no doubt that is the book Fowke gave me, after the men had been paid, on the days of polling.

Was the list written out before they attended?—That I cannot tell; I did not see it written.

You do not know how the fact is?—No.

Is Fowke alive?—Yes.

In London?—I believe not.

The Attorney-General, I hope, is alive?—I believe so.

Is it your belief that the Attorney-General's bribery in 1831 laid the foundation for the bribery in 1832?—I think it did, if I am to give an honest opinion upon that.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Were you acquainted with the election of 1826?—No.

Not at all?—No; I was not in town.

Were you acquainted with the system of bribery which had existed in Stafford before the election of 1831?—I never took part in any election before 1831.

Whether in the election before 1831 extensive bribery did take place you do not know?—No.

Whether extensive bribery took place in 1826 you do not know?—No, but by common report.

Whether the great majority of the voters in Stafford have been bribed for the last twenty years you do not know?—No; only by report.

Notwithstanding that, do you mean to state that the bribery of 1831 laid the foundation for the bribery of 1832?—Yes.

Do you mean to say that the voters who took bribes in 1831 would not have accepted bribes before that?—I cannot say that.

Why do you then say that the bribery in 1831 laid the foundation for the bribery in 1832?—Because I was asked whether I would do the same thing as I did in 1831, and if so they would vote.

That is your reason?—Yes.

Is that all the reason you have?—Yes.

Do you mean to say the only reason on which you venture that opinion to their lordships is the application you describe as having been made to you in 1832?—Yes.

You have no other reason?—No.

What was the previous state of corruption of the voters you do not know? I do not.

You have told us that you think a gentleman with Mr. Gifford's influence might have succeeded in 1831?—He might.

What do you believe?—I mean to say that if Mr. Gifford was to come forward himself, and not another, he would be returned.

What do you mean by his influence?—He has been always popular in the neighbourhood ever since I remember the place.

Do you mean that popularity is all you refer to?—Yes.

Do you believe that any other popular man would have got in in 1831 without money?—I do not believe many would.

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Do you believe that any one would have got in in 1831 without money?—It is difficult to say that.

Is Mr. Gifford a member of the Conservative Association?—Yes.

Are you the secretary?—No.

Are you treasurer?—No.

Or a member of it?—Yes.

What office do you hold?—No office at all.

When did you cease to be a reformer and become a member of the Conservative Association?—I never was a reformer.

Were not you a reformer when Mr. Campbell stood in 1831?—No.

Were you in the opposite politics to Mr. Campbell then?—No. I never voted for Mr. Campbell; I merely acted out of friendship to Mr. Whitcombe.

You paid the money, but did not vote for him?—Yes.

When did Mr. Hawkes come forward?—In 1831; I believe he had in 1830, but I am not quite sure.

Did Mr. Hawkes come forward as a reformer in 1831?—I really cannot tell; I should think not.

Do not you know that he came forward in the character of a reformer at that election?—No, I do not.

Was he the third man?—I do not know what you mean by the third man.

Do you mean to say you do not know the meaning of that expression?—I do not.

Has not that word a meaning in Stafford?—Not that I know of.

Do you remember the state of feeling in 1831?—No; I was not a party to that.

Do you know whether Mr. Hawkes had open houses in 1831?—I do not.

Do not you know, in point of fact, that Mr. Hawkes issued 10*s.* tickets to the whole of the burgesses in 1831?—I never heard that.

Five shilling tickets?—I never heard that he issued any tickets.

You have given your opinion that the bribery in 1831 laid the foundation for the bribery in 1832?—That is my opinion.

You have given us your reason?—Yes.

Have you ever stated that you thought that it would never be possible to purify the borough of Stafford until it was disfranchised?—Never.

Did you ever say that the great majority of people in Stafford wished the borough to be disfranchised?—No.

Or anything to that effect?—No, not that I recollect.

Mr. *Whateley* submitted, that this did not arise out of his cross-examination, but stated that he had no objection to its being proceeded with if he was permitted to cross-examine upon it.

The Counsel were informed, that if this course of examination was pursued Mr. *Whateley* must have an opportunity of cross-examining upon it.

Mr. *Austin* proposed that the contents of the two books produced by the witness should be put in in evidence.

[*The same were delivered in and read as follows:*]

		£.	s.	d.
✓	William Allen	1	–	–
✓	William Adams	1	–	–
✓	William Allen	1	–	–
✓	James Allen	1	–	–
✓	Robert Adams	1	–	–
✓	John Allen	1	–	–
✓	James Allen, son of William	1	–	–
✓	James Allen, son of John ~~George~~	1	–	–
✓	John Birch	1	–	–
✓	George Ansell	1	–	–
✓	Edward Birch ~~William Battey~~	1	–	–
✓	Edward Bott, junior	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Arrowsmith	1	–	–
✓	George Arrowsmith	1	–	–
✓	Moses Bailey	1	–	–
✓	Richard Butler	1	–	–
✓	Joseph Bratt	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Boulton	1	–	–
✓	Richard Beaman	1	–	–

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			£.	s.	d.
20	✓	John Bates	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Bill	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Bradshaw	1	–	–
	✓	William Bailey	1	–	–
	✓	William James Bagguley	1	–	–
	✓	George Bates	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Bradshaw	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Bill, son of John	1	–	–
	✓	John Bailey	1	–	–
	✓	John Burnes	1	–	–
	✓	Benjamin Bott	1	–	–
	✓	James Butler	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Blackburn	1	–	–
	✓	William Bratt	1	–	–
	✓	John Boult	1	–	–
	✓	Samuel Calkin, junior	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Boulton	1	–	–
	✓	Humphrey Bailey	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Bradbury	1	–	–
	✓	Walter Birch	1	–	–
40	✓	Richard Blakeman	1	–	–
	✓	William Broose	1	–	–
	✓	James Careless	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Bould	1	–	–
	✓	William Brookes	1	–	–
	✓	George Banks	1	–	–
	✓	John Chidley, junior	1	–	–
	✓	William Cotterill	1	–	–
	✓	William Austin	1	–	–
	✓	John Coates	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Bullock	1	–	–
	✓	Charles Boult	1	–	–
	✓	Samuel Cotterill	1	–	–
	✓	John Bill, son of Thomas	1	–	–
	✓	Henry Birch	1	–	–
	✓	John Chapman	1	–	–
	✓	John Broose	1	–	–
	✓	John Birtles	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Bullock	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Broose	1	–	–
60	✓	Charles Clewlow	1	–	–
	✓	William Bickerton	1	–	–
	✓	William Cornwall, senior	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Day	1	–	–
	✓	Edward Collier	1	–	–
	✓	John Bee, son of Richard	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Bee	1	–	–
	✓	Matthew Cotterill	1	–	–
	✓	John Bladon	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Bladon	1	–	–
	✓	John Careless, son of James	1	–	–
	✓	Samuel Calkin	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Bentley	1	–	–
	✓	Daniel Cooke	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Clewes	1	–	–
	✓	Charles Dudley, son of John	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Cooke	1	–	–
	✓	Edward Dawson	1	–	–
	✓	John Edwards	1	–	–
	✓	James Emery	1	–	–
80	✓	William Dudley, son of James	1	–	–
	✓	James Dale, son of Michael	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Fallows	1	–	–
	✓	Charles Dutton	1	–	–
	✓	William Day, son of William	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Fallows, junior	1	–	–
	✓	George Edwards	1	–	–
	✓	John Bott	1	–	–
	✓	John Clewes, son of Samuel	1	–	–
	✓	George Fallows	1	–	–
	✓	James Fallows	1	–	–

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			£.	s.	d.
	✓	Jacob Fallows, son of James	1	—	—
	✓	Richard Cook	1	—	—
	✓	Edward Day	1	—	—
	✓	James Eley	1	—	—
	✓	John Bott	1	—	—
	✓	William Finlow, senior	1	—	—
	✓	John Guest	1	—	—
	✓	John Goodall, senior	1	—	—
	✓	John Goodall, junior	1	—	—
100	✓	Henry Goodall	1	—	—
	✓	Henry Goodall, son of John	1	—	—
	✓	John Fowler	1	—	—
	✓	Joseph S. Fowler	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Ford, junior	1	—	—
	✓	G. M. Crewe	1	—	—
	✓	William Brcokes	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Emberton	1	—	—
		~~William Grettrez~~			
No Ticket.	✓	William Greatrex	1	—	—
	✓	William Grimes	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Greenough	1	—	—
	✓	John Goodall, son of William	1	—	—
	✓	William Dyche	2	—	—
	✓	John Carter	1	—	—
	✓	John Bennett	1	—	—
	✓	John Goodwin, senior, Gunpowder	1	—	—
	✓	William Godwin	1	—	—
	✓	Abraham Godwin	1	—	—
	✓	Abraham Bullock	1	—	—
	✓	Richard Goodwin, son of James	1	—	—
120	✓	Ralph Hammersley	1	—	—
	✓	James Bill, son of Thomas	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Dudley, son of John	1	—	—
	✓	Lewis Hall	1	—	—
	✓	George M. Godson	1	—	—
	✓	John Greenwood	1	—	—
	✓	Edward Holmes	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Goodwin	1	—	—
	✓	T. P. Fallows	1	—	—
	✓	Joseph Astbury	1	—	—
	✓	William Haywood	1	—	—
	✓	John Hodgson	1	—	—
		Thomas Austin	1	—	—
	✓	John Hodgson, senior	1	—	—
	✓	John Ecclestone	1	—	—
No Ticket.	✓	William Battey, son of John (m)	1	—	—
	✓	John Beckett	1	—	—
	✓	John Battey	2	—	—
	✓	Francis Heath	1	—	—
	✓	William Harding	1	—	—
140	✓	John Hall, son of Henry	1	—	—
	✓	William Danford	1	—	—
	✓	John Dudley	1	—	—
	✓	William Ford	1	—	—
	✓	Joseph Hillman	1	—	—
	✓	John Fallows (n)	1	—	—
	✓	Joseph Hodson	1	—	—
	✓	John Horsenail	1	—	—
	✓	James Horsenail	1	—	—
	✓	John Godwin, son of William	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Hubball	1	—	—
	✓	Enoch Hall	1	—	—
	✓	Michael Hall	1	—	—
	✓	William Griffin	1	—	—
	✓	William Fulwood	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Gandy Bullock	1	—	—
	✓	William Humphries	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Hill	1	—	—
	✓	Frederick Holford	1	—	—
	✓	Isaac Hammersley	1	—	—

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			£.	s.	d.
160	✓	Joseph Harrison	1	–	–
	✓	James Hodson, son of John	1	–	–
	✓	William Hawkins, son of John	1	–	–
	✓	John Hawkins, son of John	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Hill	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Hill, son of Sampson	1	–	–
	✓	Gregory Harrison	1	–	–
	✓	Omer Holding	1	–	–
	✓	Ephraim Hassall	1	–	–
	✓	John Finlow	1	–	–
	✓	George M. Hall	1	–	–
	✓	John Ford, son of William	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Hartell	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Guest	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Fallows, Son of Joseph	1	–	–
	✓	Charles Cork	1	–	–
	✓	John Hodgson, junior	1	–	–
	✓	Francis Drapier	1	–	–
~~180~~	✓	Charles Ilsley, son of William	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Ilsley, son of William	1	–	–
180	✓	John Hughes	1	–	–
	✓	John Deaken	1	–	–
	✓	William Clewlow	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Evans	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Howe	1	–	–
	✓	George Horsenail	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Hilsley	1	–	–
No Ticket.	✓	Thomas Harvey	1	–	–
	✓	John Hawkins B. Smith	1	–	–
	✓	William Cornwell, junior	1	–	–
	✓	~~James Fellows, senior~~	1	–	–
		Thomas Brough	1	–	–
	✓	William Gilbert, son of John	1	–	–
	✓	Charles Johnson	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Ilsley	1	–	–
	✓	George Keates	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Johnson	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas James	1	–	–
	✓	Robert Haywood	1	–	–
	✓	George Halden	1	–	–
✓	200	James Keates	1	–	–
	✓	John Kenderdine	1	–	–
	✓	Robert Horne	1	–	–
	✓	James Horne	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Hodgson, son of Richard	1	–	–
	✓	George Jennings	1	–	–
	✓	John James	1	–	–
	✓	William Dearn	1	–	–
	✓	James Hornsby	1	–	–
	✓	John Godwin	1	–	–
	✓	Charles Ilsley Broad Eye	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Lowndes	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Lander, senior	1	–	–
	✓	M. J. Glover	1	–	–
		George Bentley	1	–	–
	✓	Robert Jones, junior	1	–	–
		~~John Bott~~			
	✓	Edward Kenderdine, son of John	1	–	–
	✓	Henry Hall, son of Richard	1	–	–
	✓	Edward Lloyd	1	–	–
	✓	William Knight, son of John	1	–	–
✓	220	Richard Moore, son of Henry	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Ilsley	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Moore, son of William	1	–	–
	✓	William Moore, senior	1	–	–
	✓	Nicholas Hodgson	1	–	–
	✓	James Dudley	1	–	–
	✓	James Follows, senior	1	–	–
	✓	James Moreton	1	–	–
	✓	Edward Moore	1	–	–
	✓	William Moore	1	–	–

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		£.	s.	d.
✓	John Mountford, Windmill	1	–	–
✓	John Lees, senior	1	–	–
✓	Richard Lees, junior	1	–	–
✓	Richard Mountford, W. Buildings	1	–	–
✓	William Mountford	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Hodgson (Cupid)	1	–	–
✓	E. Kinderdine, son of John	1	–	–
✓	George Moore	1	–	–
✓	W. G. Glover	1	–	–
✓	William Kinderdine, Gaol	1	–	–
✓240	William Beech	1	–	–
✓	James Meeson, Painter Books	1	–	–
✓	William Ilsley, Browning's-lane	1	–	–
✓	Henry Moore	1	–	–
✓	Henry Hart	1	–	–
✓	Joseph Miles	1	–	–
✓	John Johnson	1	–	–
✓	William Harvey	1	–	–
✓	James Meeson, breeches-maker	1	–	–
✓	John Murray	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Draper	1	–	–
✓	Samuel Kent	1	–	–
✓	William Bird	1	–	–
✓	John Keeling	1	–	–
✓	John Moreton	1	–	–
✓	Richard Bridgon, builder	1	–	–
✓	Charles Moore	1	–	–
✓	Richard Moore	2	–	–
✓	W. Moreton	1	–	–
✓	David Machin	1	–	–
✓260	Peter Mitchell	1	–	–
✓	Charles Machin Sash, senior	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Hubball	1	–	–
✓	Robert Lakin	1	–	–
✓	George Biddulph	1	–	–
✓	William Neeld	1	–	–
✓	Francis Marston	1	–	–
✓	William Ellsmere	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Mountford	1	–	–
✓	William Booth	1	–	–
✓	John Ford	1	–	–
✓	John Langley	1	–	–
✓	Francis Machin	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Machin	1	–	–
✓	William Hollis	1	–	–
✓	R. M. Lander	1	–	–
✓	Edward Hill, junior	1	–	–
✓	Edward Hill, senior	1	–	–
✓	William Nickson	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Jones	1	–	–
✓280	Peter Chambers	1	–	–
✓	John Bill	2	–	–
✓	Samuel Godwin	2	–	–
✓	Thomas Keene	1	–	–
✓	Lewis Pilsbury, senior	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Parker	1	–	–
✓	William Pierce	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Poole	1	–	–
✓	George Parker	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Perry, son of Richard	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Perry, senior	1	–	–
✓	Joseph Brixton	1	–	–
✓	William Perry	1	–	–
✓	Edward Pickin, senior	1	–	–
✓	William Pickin	1	–	–
✓	George Griffin	1	–	–
✓	William Kenderdine, junior	2	–	–
✓	Edward Kenderdine, junior	2	–	–
✓	John Biddulph, junior	1	–	–
✓	Thomas Lander, junior	2	–	–
✓300	John Peake, junior	1	–	–

~~No Ticket.~~

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			£.	s.	d.
	✓	Lewis Pilsbury, junior	1	–	–
	✓	B. Kenderdine	2	–	–
	✓	Peter Jones	2	–	–
~~314~~	✓	Lewis Pilsbury, G. Gate	1	–	
304	✓	John Johnson	1	–	–
			314	–	–
	✓	Samuel Cook, son of Joseph	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Bott	1	–	–
	✓	Josh. Eley	1	–	–
	✓	Omer Hall	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Bennett	1	–	–
	✓	John Cotterill	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Pickin, son of Edward	2	–	–
	✓	John Painter	1	–	–
	✓	J. K. Clack	1	–	–
	✓	William Lymer	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Painter	1	–	–
	✓	J. M. Knight	1	–	–
	✓	Michael Moseley	1	–	–
	✓	George Parker	1	–	–
	✓	W. Dale	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Finlow	✓ 2	–	–
	✓	W. Padmore	1	–	–
	✓	William Plant	1	–	–
	✓	John Pilsbury	1	–	–
20	✓	William F. Padmore	1	–	–
	✓	William Reeves	1	–	–
	✓	John Mathews	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Parkes	1	–	–
	✓	William Moseley	1	–	–
	✓	John Moseley	1	–	–
	✓	George Moseley	1	–	–
	✓	John Russell, junior	1	–	–
	✓	John Cooper	1	–	–
	✓	Michael Simpson	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Riley, son of Thomas	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Riley	1	–	–
	✓	John Robinson	1	–	–
	✓	William Pugh	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Hawkins	1	10	–
	✓	John S. Caithness	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Earp	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Lake	✓ 2	–	–
	✓	William Batty	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Salt	✓ 3	–	–
40	✓	Richard Riley, son of Benjamin	✓ 2	–	–
	✓	John Parton	1	–	–
	✓	William Morry	1	–	–
	✓	James Bott	✓ 2	–	–
	✓	William Snape	1	–	–
	✓	William Millington	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Peake	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Stanton	✓ 2	–	–
	✓	John Nield	1	–	–
	✓	Michael Riley	1	–	–
	✓	Richard Riley, son of Samuel	1	–	–
	✓	Robert Nevitt	1	–	–
	✓	William Nevitt	1	–	–
	✓	Samuel Riley, senior	1	–	–
	✓	Stephen Shenton	1	–	–
	✓	William Riddin	1	–	–
	✓	William Pilsbury	1	–	–
	✓	William Bates	1	–	–
	✓	William Gibbons	1	–	–
	✓	William Hill	1	–	–
60	✓	John Beardmore	1	–	–
	✓	John Stanton, senior	1	–	–
	✓	John Stanton, junior	1	–	–

(*continued.*)

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			£.	s.	d.
	✓	Richard Jones	1	—	—
	✓	William Lloyd	1	—	—
	✓ No Ticket.	Thomas Stubbs	1	—	—
	✓	John Rose	1	—	—
	✓	James Pattison	2	—	—
	✓	George Rowley	1	—	—
	✓	George Robotham	1	—	—
	✓	William Robotham	1	—	—
	✓	Samuel Rotchile	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Lawton	1	—	—
	✓	W. Lawton	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Snape, son of Nathaniel	1	—	—
	✓	Nathaniel Snape	1	—	—
	✓	Richard Smith	1	—	—
	✓	William Ilsley, soldier	1	—	—
	✓	Samuel Stokes	1	—	—
	✓	John Moore	1	—	—
80	✓	Walter Southall	1	—	—
	✓	John Goodwin	1	—	—
	✓	Richard Snape	1	—	—
	✓	James Simpson	2	—	—
	✓	R. C. Painter	1	—	—
	✓	J. Rogers U	1	—	—
	✓	William Roger	1	—	—
	✓	Samuel Riley	1	—	—
	✓	John Stokes	2	—	—
	✓	John Stanton, son of Edward	1	—	—
	✓	James Salt	2	—	—
	✓	Thomas Earp	1	—	—
	✓	W. H. Smith	1	—	—
	✓	John Salt	1	—	—
	✓	Francis Moreton	1	—	—
	✓	James Ryley	1	—	—
	✓	James Lowe	1	—	—
	✓	Joseph Moreton	1	—	—
	✓	H. Greenwood	1	—	—
	✓	George Tonks	1	—	—
100	✓	James Salt, junior	✓2	—	—
	✓	John Simpson	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Moreton	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Stringer	1	—	—
	✓	John Tagg, senior	1	—	—
	✓	George Rose	1	—	—
	✓	John Snape, son of William	1	—	—
	✓	John Swift	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Swift	1	—	—
	✓	Michael Shalcross	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Till	1	—	—
	✓	John Tildesley	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Simpson	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Stokes	1	—	—
	✓	W. Smith	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Shocklidge	1	—	—
	✓	Frederick A. Smith	1	—	—
	✓	Robert W. Smith	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Slater	1	—	—
120	✓	Thomas Smith, son of Edward	1	—	—
	✓	Edward Wood	1	—	—
	✓	Richard Tonks	1	—	—
	✓	William Till, son of Thomas	1	—	—
	✓	William Kent	1	—	—
	✓	Joseph Stanton	1	—	—
	✓	William Taylor	1	—	—
	✓	Samuel Taylor	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Taylor	1	—	—
	✓	Thomas Till, son of Thomas	1	—	—
	✓	James Taylor	1	—	—
	✓	John Hodson	1	—	—
	✓	George Thorpe	1	—	—
	✓	John Till	1	—	—

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			£	s.	d.
	✓	Charles Thornton	1	–	–
	✓	Robert Thorpe	1	–	–
	✓	Benjamin Shenton	1	–	–
	✓	William Tildesley	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Venables	1	–	–
	✓	William Venables	1	–	–
	✓	John Worsey	1	–	–
140	✓	John Tagg, son of Francis	1	–	–
	✓	H. Vickers	1	–	–
	✓	Joseph Venables	1	–	–
	✓	James Silvester	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Fallows	1	–	–
	✓	William Thompson, senior	1	–	–
	✓	William Moreton	1	–	–
	✓	John Walton	1	–	–
	✓	George Turner	1	–	–
	✓	W. Wynne	1	–	–
	✓	George Wynne, son of William	1	–	–
	✓	W. Wynne ✓✓✓✓	4	–	–
	✓	John Shenton, senior	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Wright, son of William	1	–	–
	✓	William Wright	1	–	–
	✓	James Woollams	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Wood, pensioner	1	–	–
	✓	William Wynne, son of William	1	–	–
	✓	William Watwood	1	–	–
	✓	John Owen	1	–	–
160	✓	Robert Wardle	1	–	–
	✓	Francis Wood, son of Thomas	1	–	–
	✓	Peter Tonks	2	–	–
	✓	William Barratt	1	–	–
	✓	William Brookes	1	–	–
	✓	William Robotham, son of John	1	–	–
	✓	William Shaw	1	–	–
	✓	John H. Ward	1	–	–
	✓	John Hammersley	1	–	–
	✓	John Wood	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas W. Wynne	1	–	–
	✓	Elias Tavenor	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Westbrook, son of Samuel	2	–	–
	✓	James Tooth	2	–	–
	✓	Samuel Westbrook	1	–	–
	✓	John Westbrook, son of Samuel	1	–	–
	✓	Charles Wilshaw	1	–	–
	✓	John Kenderdine, one before yesterday	1	–	–
	✓	James Dudley, senior	1	–	–
	✓	James Ecclestone ✓✓	2	–	–
180	✓	M. Evans	1	–	–
	✓	George Hawkins	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Wilson	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Woolrich	1	–	–
	✓	James Tinckler	1	–	–
	✓	Lewis Perkins, son Francis	2	–	–
	✓	James Perkins, son Francis	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Drapier, one yesterday	1	–	–
	✓	Thomas Wood, M. S.	1	–	–
		Second Day	209	10	–
		First do.	314	–	–
		£	523	10	–

This Account settled,
C. H. Webb.

To rep[d] to C. H. W., John Shenton – – – – – – – 1 – –

[The Words printed in "*Italics*" are Red in the Original.]

		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.		
	A.								
✓	Allan, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Adams, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Allen, William, jun.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Allen, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Adams, Robert	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					5	–	–		
P ✓	Allen, John	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
✓	Allen, James, son of William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					5	–	–		
P ✓	Allen, James, son of John	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
					5	–	–		
P ✓	Ansell, George	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
	Arrowsmith, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–		
✓	Arrowsmith, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Austin, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Astbury, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					5	~~10~~	–		
P ✓	Austin, Thomas	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
✓	Aston, Abraham	–		–	3	10	–	✓	
✓	Aston, Henry	–		–	3	10	–	✓	
	B.								
✓	Birch, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Birch, Edward	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bott, Edward, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bailey, Moses	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Butler, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bratt, Joseph, £1 *Mrs. Bratt, July 5th.*	1	–	–	1	10	–	✓	
✓	Boulton, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Beaman, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bates, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bill, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bradshaw, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bailey, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					5	–	–		
P ✓	Baggerley, William James	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
✓	Bates, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bradshaw, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bill, Thomas, Son of John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bailey, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	Paid to Moses Bailey, 12th July, by Order.
✓	Barnes, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bolt, Benjamin	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Butler, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Blackburn, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bratt, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Boutt, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Boulton, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bradbury, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bayley, Humphrey	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Birch, Walter	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Blakeman, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Broose, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					5	–	–		
P ✓	Bould, Thomas	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
✓	Brookes, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Banks, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					5	–	–	✓	
P ✓	Bullock, Thomas	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–		
✓	Boult, Charles, £1. adv^{d} by R. White	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	£1 for Door-keeper.
					4	~~10~~	–		
P ✓	Bill, John, ~~son of Thomas~~	2	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
✓	Birch, Henry	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Broose, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Birtles, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bullock, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Broose, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Bickerton, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	

C. H. Webb.
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		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
✓	Bee, John, Son of Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bee, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bladen, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bladen, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
60 ✓	Bentley, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	
					5	–	–	✓
P ✓	Bott, John, Fil Jacob	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓
✓	Bott, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Brookes, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bennett, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bullock, Abraham	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bill, James, son of Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					4	–	–	
P ✓	Battey, William, son of John, £1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1	–	–	~~3~~	~~10~~	–	✓
✓	Beckett, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					4	–	–	
P ✓	Batty, John, £1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1	–	–	~~3~~	~~10~~	–	✓
✓	Bullock, Thomas, ~~Gurney~~ Fil Isaac.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bentley, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Beech, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bud, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bridgen, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Biddulph, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Booth, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bill, John	2	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Buxton, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Biddulph, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bott, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					5	–	–	
P ✓	Bennett, Thomas	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓
					4	–	–	✓
P ✓	Battey, William	2	–	–	~~2~~	~~10~~	–	✓
✓	Bott, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bates, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Barrett, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Brookes, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Boot, John, £1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓ ~~q. paid.~~
✓	Biddle, John, £1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Brough, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Bundley, Henry	–		–	3	10	–	✓
✓	Beardmore, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
P ✓	Battey, George	–		–	6	–	–	✓
P ✓	Battey, Peter	–		–	6	–	–	✓
	C.							
✓	Calkin, Samuel, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Careless, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Chidley, John, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Cotteril, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					5	–	–	
P ✓	Coates, John	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓
✓	Cotterill, Samuel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					5	~~10~~	–	
P ✓	Chapman, John	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓
					5	–	–	
P ✓	Clewlow, Charles	1	–	–	~~2~~	~~10~~	–	✓
✓	Cornwall, William, senior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Collier, Edward	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓ By Mrs. Yates, July 20, 1831.
✓	Cotterill, Matthew	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					5	–	–	
P ✓	Careless, John, son of John	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓
✓	Calkin, Samuel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Cooke, Daniel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Clewes, Thomas £1 *lent, C. H. W*	1	–	–	1	10	–	✓
✓	Cooke, Thomas, ~~son of John~~	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Cook, Richard, son of James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					5	–	–	
P ✓	Clewes, John, son of Samue	1	–	–	~~4~~	~~10~~	–	✓

(*continued.*)

C. H. Webb.

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			£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
	✓	Crewe, G. M.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Carter, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Cock, Charles	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Clewlow, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	
	✓	Cornwell, William, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	
	✓	Chambers, Peter	1	–	–	2	10	–	
	✓	Cook, Samuel, son of Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	
	✓	Cotterill, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	
						5	–	–	
P	✓	Clark, J. K.	1	–	–	~~4 10~~		–	✓
100	✓	Cooper, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Caithness, John S.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Creeve, Robert	–	–	–	3	10	–	✓
P	✓	Carter, Thomas, senior	–	–	–	6	~~10~~	–	
		D.							
	✓	Day, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Dudley, Charles, son of John	1	–	–	~~2 10~~		–	✓ Cut off; on Parish.
						5	–	–	
P	✓	Dawson, Edward	1	–	–	~~4 10~~		–	✓
	✓	Dudley, William, son of James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Dale, James, son of Michael	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Dutton, Charles	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Day, William, son of William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
						4	–	–	
P	✓	Day, Edward, *lent* £1, *C. H. W.*	1	–	–	~~3 10~~		–	✓
						4	–	–	
P	✓	Dyche, William	2	–	–	~~3 10~~		–	✓
	✓	Dudley, Thomas, son of John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Danford, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
		~~Dudley, John.~~	1	–	–	~~2 10~~		–	
	✓	Draper, Francis	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Deakin, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Dearn, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
						4	–	–	
P	✓	Drapier, Thomas	2	–	–	~~3 10~~		–	✓
	✓	Dudley, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Dale, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
						4	–	–	
P	✓	Dudley, John, senior	2	–	–	~~2 10~~		–	✓
		E.							
	✓	Eccleston, Samuel, £1 *lent*, *C.H.W.*	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓ Widow paid.
		Evans, Michael	1	–	–	2	10	–	
	✓	Eccleston, James	2	–	–	1	10	–	✓
	✓	Earp, Thomas, £.1 adv^{d}.	2	–	–	1	10	–	✓
	✓	Edwards, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Emery, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
		Edwards, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	
	✓	Emberton, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Eccleston, John, £1, *July 5th*, *C. H. W.*	1	–	–	1	10	–	✓
	✓	Elly, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Evans, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Ellesmere, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Eley, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Edwards, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
		F.							
P	✓	Fallows, Joseph	1	–	–	~~4 10~~		–	
						5	–	–	
P	✓	Fallows, Joseph, junior	1	–	–	~~2 10~~		–	✓
	✓	Fallows, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
						5	–	–	
P	✓	Fallows, James, junior	1	–	–	~~4 10~~		–	✓
	✓	Fallows, Jacob, son of James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Finlow, William, senior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓

C. H. Webb.

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		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
✓	Fowler, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Fowler, J. S.	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
			5 – –	
P ✓	Ford, Thomas, junior	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
✓	Fallows, T. P.	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Fallows, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Ford, William	1 – –	2 5 –	✓ 5s. out of Pocket, C.H.W.
✓	Fulwood, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓ from P. Battey.
			5 – –	
✓	Finlow, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓ £1 qu.
✓	Ford, John, son of William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
			5 – –	
P ✓	Fallows, Thomas, son of Joseph	1 – –	~~2 10~~ –	✓
✓	Follows, James, senior	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Ford, John, junior	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
			4 – –	
P ✓	Finlow, Thomas	2 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
✓	Fallows, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	Finlow, John, £1 *lent*, *C. H. W.*	1 – –	2 10 –	
✓	Fallows, Joseph Tailor	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	G.			
✓	Guest, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodall, senior, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodall, junior, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodall, Henry	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodall, Henry, son of John	1 –	2 10 –	✓
			4 – –	
P ✓	Greatrix, William, £1 *lent*, *C.H.W.*	1 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
✓	Grimes, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Greenough, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodhall, John, son William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodwin, senior, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodwin, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodwin, Abraham	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodwin, Richard, son of James	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
			5 – –	
P ✓	Goodson, G. M.	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
✓	Greenwood, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodwin, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
			5 – –	
P ✓	Godwin, John, son of William	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
✓	Griffin, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Guest, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Gilbert, William, son of John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Godwin, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Glover, J.	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Glover, W. J.	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
			4 – –	
P ✓	Godwin, Samuel	2 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
			5 – –	
P ✓	Griffin, George	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
✓	Gibbons, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodwin, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Greenwood, Henry	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Goodwin, James	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
P	Gilbert, William	– – –	6 – –	✓
✓	Grattadge, William	– – –	3 10 –	✓
	H.			
✓	Hall, Lewis	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
			5 – –	
P ✓	Holmes, Edward	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
			5 – –	
P ✓	Haywood, William	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
✓	Hodgson, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Hodgson, John, junior	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
✓	Heath, Francis	1 – –	2 10 –	✓

(*continued.*)

C. H. Webb.

8 July 1836.

			£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.		
	✓	Harding William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
						5	–	–		
P	✓	Hall, John, son of Henry	1	–	–	~~2~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
					–	5	–	–		
P	✓	Hilman, Joseph	1	–	–	~~2~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
	✓	Hodgson, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Horsenail, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Horsenail, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hubball, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hall, Enoch	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hall, Michael	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hill, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Holford, Frederick	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hammersley, Isaac	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
						5	–	–		
P	✓	Harrison, Joseph	1	–	–	~~2~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
	✓	Hodgson, James, son of John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hawkins, William, son of John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hawkins, John, son of John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hill, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hill, Thomas, son of Sampson	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Harrison, Gregory	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Holding, Omer, £ 2 advanced, R. W.	1	–	–	–	10	–	✓	Paid to William Battey 30th July.
	✓	Hassall, Ephraim	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hall, George Murray	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hartall, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hodgson, John, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hughes, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Howe, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
						5	–	–		
P	✓	Horsenail, George	1	–	–	~~2~~	~~10~~	–	✓	
	✓	Hilsley, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hawey, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Haywood, Robert	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Halden, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Horne, Robert	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Horne, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hodgson, Thomas, son of ~~James~~ Richard.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hornsby, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hall, Henry, son of Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hodgson, Nicholas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
P	✓	Hodgson, Thomas (Cupid)	1	–	–	5	–	–	✓	
	✓	Hart, Henry	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Harvey, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hubball, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hollis, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hill, Edward, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hill, Edward, senior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hall, Omer, *lent* £ 1, *C. H. W.*	1	–	–	1	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hill, William	1	–	–	1	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hawkins, Joseph	1	10	–	2	–	–	✓	
	✓	Hodson, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hawkins, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hammersley, Ralph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Humphreys, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hassal, Ephraim	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hawkins, John B. Smith	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hammersley, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hall, Henry Cutler	–	–	–	3	10	–	✓	
	✓	Hodgson, John	–	–	–	3	10	–	✓	
		I.								
	✓	Ilsley, Charles, son William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Ilsley, Joseph, son William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Ilsley, Thomas, son William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Ilsley, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	✓	Ilsley, Charles Broadeye	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	

C. H. Webb.

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			£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
	✓	Ilsley, William Brownᵉ Lane	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Ilsley, William (soldier)	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Insley, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
		J.			
	✓	Johnson, Charles	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Johnson Richard	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	James, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Jenning, George	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				5 – –	
P	✓	James, John	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Jones, Robert, junior	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Johnson, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Jones, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				4 – –	
P	✓	Jones, Peter	2 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Johnson, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Jones, Richard	1 –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Johnson, Joseph, £.1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
		K.			
P	✓	Keates, George	1 – –	4 10 –	✓
	✓	Keates, James	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
P		Kenderdine, John	2 – –	3 10 –	✓
				5 4 – –	
P	✓	Kenderdine, Edward, Fil. Benjⁿ Benjamin	2 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Knight, William, son of ~~John~~	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Kent, Samuel	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				5 – –	✓
P	✓	Keeling, John	1 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Keene, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				4 – –	✓
P	✓	Kenderdine, William, junior, son Benjamin.	2 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Kenderdine, Edward, junior	2 1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				4 – –	
P	✓	Kenderdine, John, son Benjamin	2 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Kenderdine, Edward, son of John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Kenderdine, William (Gaol)	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Knight, J. M.	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Kent, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
P		Kenderdine, Benjamin	2 – –	4 – –	✓
		L.			
	✓	Lowndes, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				5 – –	
P	✓	Lander, Thomas, senior	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Lloyd, Edward	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Leese, John, senior	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Leese, Richard, junior	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Lakin, Robert	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Langley, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				5 – –	
P	✓	Lander, R. M.	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
				4 – –	
P	✓	Lander, Thomas, junior	2 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
				4 – –	
P	✓	Lake, Thomas	2 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Lawton, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Lawton, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Lymer, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Lloyd, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Lowe, James	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				~~4~~ – –	
	✓	Lawlay, John	– – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
				3 10 –	

(*continued.*)

C. H. Webb.

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		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
	M.							
✓	Moore, Richard, son of Henry	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moore, William, senior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moreton, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moore, Edward	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moore, William, *Pilory*, £1 *lent C. H. W.*	1	–	–	1	10	–	✓
✓	Mountford, John, Windmill	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Mountford, Richard, Union Buildings.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Mountford, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Meeson, James, painter, Banks	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moore, Henry	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Mills, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Meeson, James (breeches-maker)	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Murray, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moreton, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					4	–	–	
P ✓	Moore, Charles	2	–	–	~~3 10~~		–	✓
✓	Moore, Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moreton, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					5	–	–	
P ✓	Machin, David	1	–	–	~~4 10~~		–	✓
✓	Machin, Charles, (Sash-street)	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Marston, Francis	1	–	–		10	–	✓
✓	Mountford, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Machin, Francis	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Machin, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Mosely, Michael	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Matthews, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moseley, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moseley, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moseley, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Morry, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Millington, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moore, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moreton, Francis	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moreton, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moreton, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moore, Thomas, son of William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moore, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Mitchell, Peter	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Mooreton, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					4	–	–	
P	Meeson, George, Fil. of James, £1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1	–	–	~~4 10~~		–	✓
✓	Meeson, John, £1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Moreton, Daniel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	N.							
✓	Neal, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Nixon, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Nield, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Nevitt, Robert	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Nevitt, William, Fil. of Eley	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	Nutt, Thomas, £1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1	–	–	2	10	–	
✓	Nevett, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	O. & P.							
✓	Pilsbury, Lewis, senior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Parker, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Pierce, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Poole, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Parker George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
✓	Perry, Thomas, son of Richard	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
					5	–	–	✓
P ✓	Perry, Thomas, senior	1	–	–	~~4 10~~		–	✓
✓	Perry, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓

C. H. Webb.

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		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.		
					5	–	–	✓	
P ✓	Pickin, Edward, senior	1	–	–	~~4~~ ~~19~~	–	–	✓	
					5	–	–		
P ✓	Pickin, William	1	–	–	~~4~~ ~~19~~	–	–	✓	
✓	Peake, John, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Pilsbury, Lewis, junior Gardn	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Pilsbury, Lewis, Green G. Street	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					4	–	–		
P ✓	Pickin, Thomas, son of Edward	2	–	–	~~3~~ ~~19~~	–	–	✓	
✓	Painter, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Painter, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Parker, George, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Padmore William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Plant, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Pilsbury, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Padmore, William F.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Parkers, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Pugh, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Parton, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Peake, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Pilsbury, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Pattison, James	2	–	–	1	10	–	✓	
✓	Painter, R. C.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Owen, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Perkins, James, Fil. Francis	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					4	–	–		
P ✓	Perkins, Lewis, Fil. Francis	2	–	–	~~3~~ ~~19~~	–	–	✓	
✓	Pearal, Joseph, ~~Evidence, C. H. W.~~	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Plant, John	–	–	–	3	10	–	✓	
	R.								
✓	Reeves, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Russel, John, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					5	–	–		
P ✓	Riley, Joseph, son of Thomas	1	–	–	~~4~~ ~~19~~	–	–	✓	
✓	Riley, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–		
✓	Robinson, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Riley, Michael	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Riley, Richard, son of Samuel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Riley, Samuel, senior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Ridden, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Rose, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	Paid to Wife.
✓	Rowley, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	Per Bill, John.
✓	Robotham, George, senior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	Robotham, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	Rotchill, Samuel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	Rogers, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	Per Mary Anne.
	Rogers, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	Roger his Wife.
	Riley, Samuel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	Riley, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	Rose, George	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
	Robotham, William, son of John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
					4	–	–		
P ✓	Riley, Richard, Fil. Benjamin	2	–	–	~~2~~ ~~19~~	–	–	✓	
	S.								
✓	Simpson, Michael	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Salt, Thomas, (soldier), per Wife	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Stanton, Thomas	2	–	–	1	10	–	✓	
✓	Shenton, Stephen	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Stanton, John, senior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Stanton, John, junior	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Snape, Thomas, son of Nathaniel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	
✓	Snape, Nathaniel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓	

C. H. Webb.

8 July 1836.

			£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
	✓	Smith, Richard	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Stokes, Samuel	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				5 – –	
P	✓	Southall, Walter	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Snape, Richard	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				4 – –	
P	✓	Simpson, James, £1 C. H. W. July 2d.	2 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
				4 – –	
P	✓	Stokes, John	1 – –	~~3 10~~ –	✓
		Stanton, John, son of Edward	2 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Salt, James	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Smith, W. H.	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Salt, John	1 – –	2 20 –	✓
	✓	Salt, James, junior	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Simpson, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Stringer, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Snape, John, son of William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Swift, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Swift, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Shallcross, Michael	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Simpson, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Stokes, Thomas, lent £1, C. H. W.	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Smith, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Shorkledge, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Smith, F. A.	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Smith, R. W.	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Slater, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Smith, Thomas, Son of Edward	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Stanton, Joseph	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Shenton, Benjamin	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Silvester, James	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				2 10 –	
	✓	Shenton, John, senior, £1 *lent*, C. H. W.	1 – –	~~2 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Shaw, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Snape, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Stubbs, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Simenester, Thomas	– – –	3 10 –	✓
P	✓	Swift, William	– – –	6 – –	✓
	✓	Shenton, John, Fil. John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Silvester, Robert	– – –	3 10 –	✓
P	✓	Sellars, Sampson	– – –	6 – –	✓
	✓	Sellars, Richard	– – –	3 10 –	✓

T.

	✓	Tonks, George	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				5 – –	
P	✓	Tagg, John, senior	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Till, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Tildersley, John	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Tonks, Richard	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Till, William, son of Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Taylor, William, ~~for Mr. Butley £.1 to bury Wife.~~	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Taylor, Samuel, £1.	2 – –	1 10 –	✓
	✓	Taylor, Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Till, Thomas, son of Thomas	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				5 – –	
P		Taylor, James, qy. paid, inserted 2ª.	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	
	✓	Thorpe, George	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
				5 – –	
P	✓	Till, John	1 – –	~~4 10~~ –	✓
	✓	Thornton, Charles	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Thorpe, Robert	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Tildesley, William	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Tagg, John, son of Francis	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Thompson, William, senior	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Turner, George	1 – –	2 10 –	✓
	✓	Tavenor, Elias	1 – –	2 10 –	✓

C. H. Webb.

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			£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
	✓	Tildersley, William, son of Richard	–	–	–	3	10	–	✓
	✓	Tooth, James	2	–	–	1	10	–	✓
	✓	Tinchler, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
P	✓	Tonks, Peter	2	–	–	3	10	–	✓
						~~1~~	~~10~~	–	✓
						4	–	–	✓
P	✓	Taylor, James, ~~£1 lent, C. H. W.~~	2	–	–	~~2~~	~~10~~	–	✓
	✓	Tildesley, Richard, son of John	–	–	–	3	10	–	✓
	✓	Venables, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Venables, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Vickers, Henry	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Venables, Joseph	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Venables, Thomas Forehead	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
P	✓	Till, Francis	–	–	–	6	–	–	✓
	✓	Till, John	–	–	–	6	–	–	✓
		W.							
	✓	Wood, Thomas, M. S.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Woolrich, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wilson, Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wilshaw, Charles	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Westbrook, John, son of Samuel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Westbrook, Samuel	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Westbrook, Thomas, son of Samuel	1	–	–	1	10	–	✓ For his Mother.
	✓	Wynne, T. W.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Ward, J. H.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wood, Francis, Fil. Thomas	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
						5	–	–	✓
P	✓	Wardle, Robert	1	–	–	~~2~~	~~10~~	–	✓
	✓	Watwood, William, £2 *advanced by C. H. Webb.*	1	–	–	–	10	–	✓
	✓	Wynne, William, Fil. William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wood, Thomas, Pensioner	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Woollams, James	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wright, William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wright, Thomas, Fil. William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wynne, William	1	–	–	–	–	–	✓
	✓	Wynne, George, son of William	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wynne, William, son of Francis	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Walton, Jonathan	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Worsey, John	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wood, Edward	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Wood, John, £1 *lent, C. H W.*	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Ward, Richard, £1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓ Per Father, J. Ward.
	✓	Yeomans, £1 *lent, C. H. W.* John.	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
	✓	Ward, ~~Joseph~~, £1 *lent, C. H. W.*	1	–	–	2	10	–	✓
P	✓	Watwood, Thomas, jun.	–	–	–	6	–	–	✓
	✓	Wood, Thomas, son William	–	–	–	3	10	–	✓ Per John Swift, ditto.
	✓	Wood, ~~Thomas~~, William	–	–	–	3	10	–	✓

	£.	s.	d.
Amount paid Voters	2,073	0	0
Bills, &c.	11	13	6
	2,084	13	6
Henry Jenkinson	3	10	0
	2,088	3	6

Copy sent Mr. Campbell, 13th July 1831. C. H. W.

C. H. Webb.

8 July 1836.

£.	
1	Stephen Shenton, voted 2
1	John Blakemore - do.
1	Thomas Coldfield, do.
1	William Johnson, do.
1	Cartwright - - do.
1	Robert Boulton - do.
1	Thomas Peny, for William Battey.
1	John Tonks - - do.

	£.	s.	d.
Doorkeepers - - - - - - - -	1	10	0
Ringers - - - - - - - - -	1	1	0
~~Bill at Talbot~~			
Music - - - - - - - - -	1	10	0
Flags - - - - - - - - -	-	5	0
	7	7	6
		~~17~~	
Bills at Talbot - - - - - - -	~~6~~	~~17~~	~~6~~
	11	13	6

By a Lord.] You say that in the election of 1831 the payment made by Sir John Campbell was one and two sovereigns, and the payment afterwards was 2*l.* 10*s.* and 4*l.*?—Yes.

When the payment of one and two sovereigns was made, was it agreed they should have a second payment; was that promised to them?—It could not be promised till after the election, for unless Sir John Campbell was returned, the money was to be returned to him.

Can you state what the sums paid in 1830 were?—I know nothing about the election of 1830.

You say that the bribery of 1831 was the foundation of the bribery of 1832?—I only gave that as an opinion.

What was the foundation of the bribery of 1831; had there been no previous bribery?—Not to my knowledge.

Do you believe there had been no previous bribery?—Oh no; I do not believe it.

You believe there had been previous bribery?—Yes, I do, from certain reports.

Had you arranged this system of bribing the voters in 1831 previous to the commencement of the poll?—The night before.

What was the arrangement made the night before; who proposed it?—At the election of 1831 Sir John Campbell was very unpopular in the town, and unless he paid the voters, it was quite certain he would not come in. Sir John Campbell consented that 2,000*l.* should be placed in the hands of myself, Mr. Whitcombe, and Mr. John Henson Webb, to be appropriated in the event of his being returned. It was found, the day before the election, that unless something was paid on account he would lose his election; and it was then agreed that 1*l.* should be paid to a split vote, and 2*l.* to a plumper, as they voted.

Who proposed this arrangement the night before the election, when it was made?—That I cannot say.

Was it you?—No, it was not.

You were cognizant of it?—I was cognizant of it.

Do you presume that there had been no bribery before, if it was understood and notorious he would lose his election without bribery?—I do not understand the question.

How came it to be suggested that they should be paid, if it had not been the practice in Stafford to pay for votes previous to the year 1831?—I never heard of the arrangement we were making having been ever made at a former election.

You had heard of bribery, but in a different way?—I never knew what the system was.

But there was bribery, though you did not know the system?—I cannot state from my own knowledge that there was bribery; I have heard it from report that there was.

Why do you think that the bribery of 1831 was the foundation for the bribery of 1832?—It was the only election I ever was engaged in, that was the reason; I believe

C. H. Webb.

8 July 1836.

I believe it was begun in 1831; and the reason why I give it as my opinion that the election of 1831 was the ground for bribery in 1832, was because I was asked during the election of 1832 if I would have money placed in my hands, and would act in the same way.

The sole reason for your believing that the bribery of 1832 was entirely grounded on the election of 1831 was, that you were not engaged in bribing in the former election?—Yes; that is the sole reason that I have. They asked me in 1832 to do the same thing I had done in 1831, which I refused.

You stated the other day that the constituency of Stafford had been very much purified, did you not?—Yes.

You continue of that opinion now?—I do.

That no bribery would avail?—Bribery, to a certain extent, with a certain party, would prevail in Stafford, I have no doubt.

That it would not prevail to carry an election?—No.

There is a strong political feeling in Stafford?—Yes.

And that not a cart-load of sovereigns, you said, would bring in a whig in opposition to a tory?—Yes; I do think so now, at the present moment.

By whom were you desired to hold the money in 1832?—I cannot say who it was; it was merely a common observation, as I passed through a crowded market place.

Was it an observation made to you by other persons?—It was, by several persons.

Were they electors?—I believe they were, but I really cannot recollect their names.

On whose behalf was it you were invited to give money in 1832?—I am sure I cannot tell; I do not know on which side they were going to vote.

For whom did you vote in 1832?—For Mr. Blunt and Captain Chetwynd, I believe.

Do you know whether the persons who asked you whether you would do the same you had done in 1831 were friends of Mr. Blunt, or Captain Chetwynd, or Captain Gronow?—No, I do not.

Are you in the habit of making a distinction in Stafford between head-money and bribery?—I never heard the phrase used.

Do you not conceive many poor people in Stafford, having this offer of money made to them by a great lawyer, may have been biased to consider that it was not an illegal thing for them to take it?—I have not a doubt they did not consider it illegal.

You say you never heard a distinction made between head-money and bribery; suppose they got 5*l.* for a plumper, and 2*l.* for a single vote; did they consider that as bribery, or head-money?—I never heard the term head-money before.

You have heard the term bribery?—I do not think they considered that bribery.

Has it been the habit for a great number of elections at Stafford to get this money?—I know of no election previous to the election of 1831.

Was that considered a usual thing?—I believe it was paid at the time of Sheridan and Monkton regularly; I have heard it from common report.

The people seemed to think there was nothing wrong it it?—They did.

Did they think it nothing extraordinary?—No.

Then it was the practice of the place?—I cannot say to my own knowledge.

As to common report of the view taken by the electors, you say they did not think it wrong, and they did not think it extraordinary?—They did not.

Then they must have thought it the common practice of elections that voters should receive something?—It might be so.

What did they think when the head-money rose from 3*l.* to 5*l.* and 8*l.*?—I never knew any election of my own knowledge where the bribery was increased.

Do you know when they introduced the practice first of bribery into the borough of Stafford?—No.

Do you happen to know from your own experience, that some years ago, what you call bribery, or what in some places is called head-money, was given in half the boroughs in England?—I know it only from common report.

Do you know a person named Mr. Henry Jenkinson?—Yes.

He takes an active part in elections sometimes, does not he?—Not that I know of.

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Do not you know that he took an active part for Mr. Blunt?—No.

You do not know that he ever made any bargain with the voters?—Not to my knowledge.

Not for Mr. Campbell?—Not to my knowledge; I do not think I ever exchanged a word with Mr. Jenkinson in my life on an election.

Do you know Henry Hall?—I do know him by name.

Not personally?—No.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *Whateley* stated, that the petitioners conceived it extremely important that the Attorney-General should be permitted to give evidence on this case, and he prayed that their lordships would be pleased to send a message to the House of Commons requesting his attendance.

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, That the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till Wednesday Morning next, at Ten o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Mercurii, 13° *Julii* 1836.

THE Order of the Day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their petition:

Counsel were called in.

William Cole.

13 July 1836.

William Cole was again called in, and further Examined as follows:

By a Lord.] HAVE you got the number and date of either of the bills which are mentioned in this order?—Yes.

Will you be so good as to state them?—No. 1,306, dated 24th September 1832, was paid by a clerk to Messrs. Baring, Brothers, on the 22d of October.

Have you any account of the other drafts?—No, I have not.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

William Tulley.

William Tulley was again called in, and further Examined as follows;

By a Lord.] ARE you a clerk in the house of Messrs. Cocks & Biddulph?—Yes.

Have you an account of either of those notes?—Of one of the notes mentioned in the order No. 8,595.

You received that from the bank, did you not?—I did not receive it myself, but we received it.

To whom did you pay it?—We do not know the person to whom we paid it; it was a draft drawn by G. S. Ford.

Do you know who G. S. Ford is?—Yes; he is a customer of ours.

When did you pay it to G. S. Ford?—The 1st of September 1832.

Where does he live?—In Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, I believe.

That is all you know about it?—Yes.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *Austin* stated, that one-half of the poll-book in 1832 had been lost, and the other half, having been deposited in the House of Commons, had been burnt, and he begged leave to deliver in a printed copy of the notes of the check clerk of the election.

Mr. *Whateley* stated that he would admit the printed copy of the poll as contained in the Appendix to the Commons' Report.

Mr. *Austin* stated that the agent for the Bill had in vain endeavoured to find Mr. Fowke.

Mr.

Mr. *John Marson* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows: Mr. *John Marson.*

13 July 1836.

Mr. *Austin.*] ARE you an elector for Stafford?—I am one of the 10*l.* householders.

Are you a freeman?—No.

Are you on the register?—I am.

Do you remember the election of 1831, when Mr. Campbell, Mr. Gisborne, and Mr. Hawkes were candidates?—Yes.

Were you engaged at that election?—I was a friend of Mr. Gisborne's.

Had Mr. Gisborne a committee at that election?—There was no regular committee.

But was there any managing body of friends?—Yes; there were several friends that took a part.

And who acted as a committee?—There was not any regular committee; they never called them committees at Stafford; there is no regular committee-room.

Were you a member of this body?—I occasionally attended, but not regularly.

Who were those persons?—Mr. John Wynne was a friend of Mr. Gisborne's; Mr. George Wynne also; and I believe Mr. Sirdefield was a friend of Mr. Gisborne's.

Was a Mr. Lee a friend of Mr. Gisborne's?—He was Mr. Gisborne's private agent.

Is Mr. Lee living or dead?—I believe he is dead; I have been told since I was in London that he is dead.

Do you know where he lived?—He resided at Manchester.

He was not a Stafford person?—He was not.

Was he brought over to that election by Mr. Gisborne?—He came with Mr. Gisborne to two elections.

Did he come to the election of 1831?—Yes.

Do you know for what purpose he came to the election?—He came to conduct it.

What part of it?—Canvassing; going round with Mr. Gisborne.

Did you go round with him?—I did not go round to the election.

Did you go round with Mr. Lee at all?—Try and recollect; your evidence has not been put upon paper?—I have never been examined before.

Did you go round with them?—I do not recollect that I did.

Did you see any payments made at that election?—I believe I did see perhaps a few pounds paid; but I did not go round very little at that election.

Look at that book [*a manuscript book being shown to the Witness*]; in whose handwriting are those entries?—I do not know.

Are they not in yours?—They are not.

Look at that [*a page in the book being shown to the Witness*]; is that your handwriting?—Yes, this is my writing.

Now, turn over this page; is that your writing?—It is.

Now, go on, and tell me where your handwriting stops?—This is it. [*Pointing it out.*]

Your handwriting begins here?—Yes.

When did you keep this book?—In the election of 1831.

Why did you keep that book?—I did not keep this; this was Mr. Lee's book.

At what time did you make those entries in it?—On Friday and Saturday the 29th and 30th of April.

Were those the polling days?—I believe they were.

On what occasions did you make those entries?—It was done at the request of Mr. Lee.

How came you to enter them down?—He requested me to do so.

How came you to make those particular entries; just explain them?—The men came and received the money; this is the amount of it.

How do you know that the men came and received the money?—I saw the men; I did not see them receive the money.

Mr. *John Marson.*

13 July 1836.

What did you see them do?—They came to the door, and came in, but I did not see them paid. Mr. Lee stood behind me, and he told me to put down the amount as here.

Where was it?—It was in my house.

Did the voters come to your house?—Yes.

How came they to come to your house?—They came for the money.

Was it arranged then that the voters should come to your house for the money?—Yes; it was arranged that they should be paid there.

When was it arranged that it should be paid there?—On the Friday morning.

Was that the first day of the election?—It was.

Where was it arranged that they should come to your house?—It was not arranged till after the election began.

When was it arranged?—I cannot tell that.

Who arranged it?—Mr. Lee and Mr. Gisborne, I believe.

Were you a party to it?—It was at my house; they merely asked me if I had any objection to it being paid at my house.

And you consented?—I did.

When the voters came, you knew what they came for?—I did.

Were they shown into a particular room?—The first room at the entrance.

Who was in the room?—There was a door-keeper.

Who was in the room?—Mr. Lee and myself, and another young man that came with Mr. Lee from Manchester; I do not recollect his name; he was a friend of Mr. Lee's.

Had Mr. Lee the money?—Yes, he had the money.

Did the voters go into this room?—Yes.

After or before they had polled?—Afterwards.

Did they bring any tickets or cheques?—They brought a small bit of paper.

Upon their producing those small bits of paper was the money paid?—Yes.

Did you see any of it paid?—I did not.

You say you were in the room?—I was.

How were they paid?—I believe the money was put between two plates.

Is that what you mean when you say you did not see the money paid?—It was paid behind my back.

Did you see the plates?—I saw the plates.

Were the plates handed to the voters, or how was it done?—They lay on the table, and the men came in one at a time.

What did the men do with respect to the plates?—They took the money from between the plates.

Did you see them go up to the plates?—I saw them come into the room, but I was engaged writing the names down.

You saw the plates, and you knew for what purpose the plates were there?—I did.

Did you see the voters go to the plates?—I could not; I was writing the names down.

It did not happen to you in any instance to see a voter go up to the plates?—I saw them come into the room.

By a Lord.] How did you know whose name to write down?—Mr. Lee told me.

In the presence of the persons who came in?—Not in the presence of any part.

Mr. *Austin.*] At what time did Mr. Lee tell you to write down a particular name?—As soon as the person had gone out.

Did you write down the name immediately after every person had gone out?—Yes.

Mr. Lee dictating them?—Yes.

When did you write the figures?—At the same time.

What did these figures represent?—The money they received.

So many pounds?—Yes.

You say that the voters brought bits of paper or cheques; what became of those?—Mr. Lee had them.

Did you see them?—Yes.

Did the voters give them to Mr. Lee?—Yes; at least I will not be positive whether they gave them to Mr. Lee or the young man that was there.

Do

Mr. *John Marson.*

13 July 1836.

Do you know what has become of those bits of paper since?—I do not.

Did you begin with that name, Edward Birch?—That is the first name.

At what time did Edward Birch come in?—I should think it might be towards eleven o'clock.

Was it on the first polling day?—It was.

Did you know any of those people that came in?—I knew some of them, but very few of them; I had not lived long there then.

But you knew some of them?—Some few of them by sight.

Did you know any of them by name?—I might tell by looking over the book; but I cannot say that I do recollect any at present.

Were you in the room the whole of the first day?—I believe I was.

Did you continue writing the whole of the first day?—Yes.

The whole of the second day?—Yes.

Did you enter the names of all those persons that came into the room?—Yes.

Had they all of them papers?—I believe they had.

Did each man bring his paper; or was there one paper for more than one man?—I will not be sure whether there were papers or not the first day.

Have you any doubt about there being papers the first day?—I have a doubt about it, because on the first day I think they were all paid alike; I do not think there were any tickets the first day.

How were the names ascertained the first day?—I think the parties told their names when they came in.

Did you hear it?—Yes.

How many voters were paid according to that book; have you cast it up?—I have not; it will appear how many by reckoning it up.

Look at it; do you know how much money was paid in this room upon the two days; how much upon the first and how much upon the second?—Those will be the two amounts.

Two hundred and five pounds and four hundred and eight pounds?—Yes.

There is an additional name afterwards?—I believe that is Mr. Lee's writing; that is one; that is not included in this, I suppose.

Was the writing at the beginning of that book written in at the time you began to keep this account?—To the best of my recollection it was.

Who gave you the book?—Mr. Lee.

To the best of your recollection, this writing was there at the time?—I cannot say that; I did not look to that. He gave it me as his memorandum book, and requested me to write down in it.

Do you know his handwriting?—No, I could not speak to it; I never saw Mr. Lee but upon two occasions.

Whose handwriting is that? [*Pointing out a part of the book.*]—I do not know.

Nor this? [*Pointing out another part.*]—I do not know that writing at all. I have not any of Mr. Lee's writing by me, or else I might compare it.

Were you about at the public-houses in the course of that election?—I believe not, at that election; I might have gone to one or two; not more.

Do you know who paid the innkeepers, if anybody?—Mr. Lee paid everything; he went to the public-houses.

Do you know what caused the difference in prices in this book; some are 3*l.*, some 1*l.*, and some 2*l.*?—It was in consequence of Mr. Hawkes being before Mr. Gisborne on the poll. Mr. Hawkes at one time was about 33 a-head; Mr. Gisborne could not get up without making a difference in the price; those that voted for Campbell and Gisborne he gave 2*l.*, and those that voted for Hawkes and Gisborne he gave 1*l.* Mr. Hawkes did not give anything.

Do you know that yourself?—It was well known in Stafford; it was the common report that he would not give a shilling.

Had you been present before, at the election in 1830?—No.

You were engaged in that way at that election?—No; there was not a farthing given.

For whom were you engaged?—For Mr. Gisborne.

By a Lord.] Who were the candidates at that election?—The same candidates; Gisborne, Campbell and Hawkes.

Mr. *John Marson.*

13 July 1836.

Mr. *Austin.*] Were you present in the public-houses at that election?—I was.

Do you know whether there was any treating going on at that election?—There was.

By which parties?—I believe Mr. Gisborne's party.

Do you know to what extent the treating went on?—About a week or a fortnight.

Was it extensive?—Not very; not so much as it had been formerly, I believe.

Had you been witness to the former treating?—It was many years since I lived in Stafford; eighteen years ago.

Do you know how much was paid for it by Mr. Gisborne?—No.

Who paid it?—Mr. Lee paid it; he was Mr. Gisborne's private agent.

Do you know whether any treating was going on on behalf of Mr. Hawkes on that occasion?—I cannot speak to that; I think very little. Mr. Hawkes did not come till very late.

Do you know what is the meaning of "tickets" at Stafford?—Yes.

Were there tickets given at the election of 1830?—Yes.

Were there any tickets given by Mr. Hawkes?—I believe there were.

Did you see them?—I did not.

Was there any treating by Mr. Hawkes?—Very little.

Was there any?—I believe there was a little.

And also by Mr. Campbell?—Yes.

I understand you to say that Edward Birch is the first name you wrote, and the last is John Wilkes?—Yes.

And all the intermediate space in this book is in your handwriting?—Yes.

Is this the list of voters that were paid on behalf of Mr. Gisborne at the election of 1831?—Yes.

[*The same was delivered in and is as follows*:]

	£.	s.
Edward Birch	1	0
William Allen	1	0
Thomas Brough	1	0
George Bankes	1	0
James Allen	1	0
Henry Birch	1	0
John Abberley	1	0
William Brooke	1	0
James Abberley	1	0
Richard Bill	1	0
Richard Bernard	1	0
William Austen	1	0
Joseph Bowers	1	0
Thomas Bould	1	0
John Clewlow	1	0
William Booth	1	0
James Allcock	1	0
John Bickerton	1	0
John Bailey	1	0
John Chidlow	1	0
Thomas Brindley	1	0
James Birtles	1	0
Joseph Batt	1	0
John Cook	1	0
Samuel Cotterill	1	0
Thomas Clews	1	0
Samuel Clews, jun.	1	0
Thomas Andrews	1	0
Henry Aston	1	0
Walter Birch	1	0
John Bee	1	0
George Clewlow	1	0
Thomas Dudley	1	0
Thomas Charlesworth	1	0
Charles Beardmore	1	0
Daniel Corker		

	£.	s.
Thomas Clews		
John Chidlow		
James Careless		
Joseph Day		
George Cooke		
Edward Brookes		
Joseph Dale		
George Deakin		
William Boult		
Daniel Dawson		
James Dale		
George Day		
William Dudley		
Richard Arrowsmith		
Charles Davenhill		
John Day		
George Fallows		
William Finlow		
Thomas Finlow, jun.		
Thomas Finlow, sen.		
Charles Dutton		
James Bullock		
Samuel Fallows		
William Bayley		
John Fernyhough		
Francis Bratt		
John Firney		
Daniel Cooke		
John Fallows Duck		
Edward Fallows, son of Duck.		
Richd. Fallows, son of Wm.		
John Clewlow		
Samuel Fallows, son of Samuel.		
Robert Adams (Waggon)		

Lent Mr. Crewe, £3.

	£.	s.
James Frith, sen.		
Thomas Emberton		
John Goodhall, son of William.		
Richard Butler		
John Bennett		
Henry Cook		
Samuel Beech		
Edward Bott		
William Allen		
Henry B. Cooke		
John Guest		
2 Thomas Allen		
2 William Brough		
Joseph Astbury		
William Brooks		
Richard Goodwin		
William Fallows, son of W. F.		
2 Thomas Dickenson		
William Godwin		
Lewis Hall		
Samuel Hawkins		
John Fallows Minty		
William Harding, joiner		
Richard Howe		
Thomas Hall, cordwainer		
William Brooze		
William Hodgkins		
Enoch Hall		
William Griffin		
William Fullwood		
John Horsenail		
Thomas Hill, schoolmaster.		
Michael Hall		
Thomas Goodwin		
William Adams		
Thomas Dudley		
Joseph Harrison		
Isaac Hammersley		
William Finlow		
William Day		
Richard Hillman		
George S. Dale		
Frederick Holdford		
John Hawkins, son of Samuel.		
Thomas Hawkins, son of James.		
Joseph Holdford		
Omar Holding		
Edward Hawkins		
2 John Day		
Thomas Insley		
Thomas Guest		
William Hawkins, son of Samuel.		
Henry Day		
John Hawkins		
George Halden		
Thomas Ilsley, son of Wm.		
George Jenkins		
Richard Johnson, son of John.		
George Jennings		
Charles Johnson		
Nicholas Hodson		
James Hornsby		
James Horne		
Edward Kenderdine		

Lent Mr. Sirdefield £30.

	£.	s.
Lent Robert Jones, jun.	1	0
George Arrowsmith		
Charles Martin		
John Hand		
James Lloyd		
John Ford, son of Wm.		
Joseph Ilsley		
James Frith		
William Beech, son of William.		
John Mountford		
Edward Moore		
Joshua Mills		
John Johnson		
Richard Moore		
John Hales Crook		
Francis Marston		
William Dean		
Richard Meeson, son of Jas. and Mary.		
Richard Abberley		
Thomas Arrowsmith		
John Abberley, sen:		
John Abberley, jun.		
Henry Moore		
John Langley		
John Hudson		
Edmund Deavell		
George Moore		
Richard Mountford, sen.		
Joseph Hurd		
William Moore		
Richard Bridgen		
W. Mountford, son of Rd.		
George Nevett, son of Thos.		
Thomas Nevett		
John Natt		
Joseph Meller		
John Lees		
James Meeson		
Richard Mountford		
Robert Newbold		
John Bagnall		
William Norcop		
James Dudley		
Samuel Kemp		
Francis Machin		
Thomas Machin		
Robert Bishop		
George Norcop		
John Johnson		
John Orton		
Thomas Pool		
William Padmore		
Edward Hill, sen.		
Edward Hill, jun.		
George Pilsbury		
Thomas Perkin		
George Parker		
Charles Nevett		
Lewis Pilsbury		
Richard Hart		
Samuel Cooke		
William Cornwall, sen.		
William Crutchlow		
William Kenderdine		
Edward Moore		
William Biddulph		
Michael Mosely	1	0
John Plant (George Wynne)	3	0
William Dale	2	0

(*continued.*)

Mr. *John Marson.*

13 July 1836.

	£.	s.
John Matthews	2	0
Thomas Pickin	1	0
Acton Pickin	1	0
George Parker	2	0
Thomas Perry	3	0
John Cotterill	2	0
Robert Harvey	3	0
William Moseley	2	0
Richard Meeson	3	0
William Padmore	1	0
William Kent	2	9
William Insley	2	0
John M'Knight	2	0
Joseph Painter, son of Wm.	2	0
Francis Phillips	1	0
Samuel Clewes	3	0
John Beardmore	2	0
Thomas W. Parkes	2	0
Joseph Painter	3	0
John Bladen	3	0
William Pilsbury	2	0
Benjamin Dickenson	3	0
William Gibbons	2	0
James Riley	2	0
Francis Day, son of John	2	0
John Painter	2	0
James Smith	3	0
William Plant	2	0
Michael Simpson	2	0
John Stanton	2	0
Francis Ratcliff	1	0
Henry Jenkinson	2	0
John Rose	2	0
Michael Riley	2	0
James Lowe	2	0
William Parkes	1	0
John Russell	3	0
John Moseley	2	0
Thomas Salt	2	0
John Ramage	1	0
George Rowley	2	0
Thomas Earp	2	0
Thomas Gallimore	3	0
Thomas Peeke	2	0
Richard Jones	1	0
William Robins	3	0
John Plant	2	0
Thomas Careless	3	0
George Robotham	1	0
Richard Ryley	2	0
F. Wynn	2	0
John Paddison	3	0
William Millington	2	0
Samuel Riley	1	0
Richard Stanier	1	0
Thomas Sutton	1	0
Edward Smith	3	0
William Browne	1	0
William Bee	1	0
William Shaw	3	0
John Robinson	2	0
William Shirley	3	0
James Bott	2	0
Francis Moreson	2	0
Stephen Snape	1	0
John Stanton	2	0
Henry Sergeant	3	0
Richard Deaville	1	0
John Snape	2	0
William Stanier	3	0
James Pattison	2	0
Thomas Stokes	2	0

	£.	s.
Thomas Moreton	2	0
Samuel Reay	1	0
Richard Cooke, painter	2	0
William Stanton	3	0
Richard Bott	2	0
Michael Slinn	3	0
Samuel Stokes	2	0
Samuel Rotchell	2	0
William Rogers	2	0
John Rogers	2	0
William Nevett	2	0
Joseph Riley	2	0
George Ridding	3	0
Thomas Lawton	2	0
George Lawton	3	0
William Lawton	2	0
Sam. Riley, son of Thomas	2	0
Joseph Hawkins	2	0
Thomas Stubbs	2	0
John Shelley, sen.	3	0
Thomas Slater	2	0
Thomas Simpson	2	0
John Parton	1	0
Job Rushton	1	0
John Zildersley, son of Rich.	3	0
Edward Stanton	1	0
	1	0
William Stanton	1	0
	1	0
William Moreton	2	0
John Stanton, son of Edward.	2	0
James Zildersley	1	0
William Henry Smith	2	0
John Salt	2	0
Thomas Thornton	1	0
William Reeves	1	0
John Shirley	1	0
William Thompson	1	0
George Thorpe	2	0
George Taverner	1	0
James Salt, jun.	2	0
William Shaw	2	0
Joseph Moreton	2	0
Thomas Smith	1	0
Benjamin Shinton	2	0
Thomas Shicklidge	2	0
Thomas Stanley	3	0
Thomas Hill	2	0
John Hammersley	2	0
George Rose	2	0
Joseph Stanton	2	0
William Ridding	2	0
William Smith	2	0
James Spilsbury	3	0
John Smith, son of John	3	0
Charles Sutton	3	0
Thomas Snape, son of Nl.	2	0
Nathaniel Snape	2	0
John Moore	2	0
Robert Nevett	2	0
Michael Shallcross	2	0
Isaac Devell	3	0
John Shenton, sen.	2	0
Thomas Stanton, (Stinkey)	2	0
Joseph Wood, jun.	1	0
John Tildesley	2	0
Robert Wynne, Coventry	2	0
William Watwood	2	0
Joseph Weaver	3	0
Robert Wynne, son of Rt.	2	0

	£.	s.
John Beckett - -	2	0
John Uncles - -	3	
George Moseley - -	1	0
Thomas Williams - -	1	0
Thomas Wardle - -	1	0
George Wood - -	1	0
Charles Wiltshaw - -	2	0
Thomas Smith - -	2	0
Thomas Ward - -	1	0
John Worsey - -	2	0
James Salt, sen. - -	2	0
Richard Smith - -	2	0
George Underhill - -	1	0
William Jacks - -	1	0
Charles Stevenson -	1	0
Richard Tildesley - -	3	0
John Simpson - -	2	0
George Robotham, sen. -	2	0
Thos. Wood, town serj.	2	0
John Wilson Thacker -	1	0
Thomas Turner - -	1	0
James Tooth, sen. - -	2	0
Thomas Thompson -	1	0
John Taylor - - -	1	0
Francis Wynne - -	2	0
Thomas Wood - -	1	0
Robt. Wynne, son of Thos.	2	0
Wm. Robotham, grocer	2	0
Thomas Wright - -	2	0
Thomas Woolrich - -	2	0
Charles Davenhill -	2	0
William Grattidge - -	2	0
William Brookes - -	1	0
William Till, son of Thos.	2	0
Wm. Tildesley, son of Jn.	2	0
James Twikler - -	2	0
George Twiner - -	2	0
Samuel Westbrook -	2	0
Thomas Westbrook -	2	0
John Westbrook - -	2	0
William Wynne, jun. -	2	0
Thomas Stringer - -	2	0
William Stringer - -	1	0
R. W. Smith - -	2	0
John Shenton, son of John	2	0
Mr. Marson, for Mr. Gisborne, Four more after.	0	8
John Wildigs - -	1	0
Frederick Smith - -	2	0
Joseph Thorpe - -	1	0
Henry Tavernor - -	3	0
Thomas Swift - -	2	0
John Swift - - -	2	0
Thomas Williams - -	1	0
Francis Wynne, son of Francis.	3	0
Thomas Follows - -	1	0
Thomas Wilson - -	2	0
William Phillips - -	3	0
Legdon's Taylor's Wifes's son - - - -	3	
Edward Thorpe - -	1	0
John Warde - - -	3	0
John Tagg - - -	2	0
John Yates - - -	3	0
Thomas Attwood - -	1	0
Joseph Taylor - -	1	0
John Wilkes - -	3	0
£.	408	0

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Do you know of your own knowledge whether they were voters or not?—I do not.

Or whether they voted or not?—I do not.

You talked about some tickets; what do you mean by tickets; what tickets were they that were given in 1830; do you know of their having been given?—I believe Mr. Gisborne gave them himself.

Were they given indiscriminately to any person?—Any person that chose to go for them.

What was the value of each ticket?—In 1830, 5*s.*; in 1831, I believe, there were not any tickets at all.

You have said that Mr. Hawkes did not give a shilling at this election in 1831; did not he poll as many as 476 voters at that time?—Four hundred and fifty-six.

Was not he, at the time Mr. Gisborne began to pay money, considerably ahead of him?—Thirty-three ahead of him.

Was that the reason why Mr. Gisborne began to pay money?—Mr. Gisborne made an alteration then.

Was there any intention, when the election began, of giving anything to Mr. Gisborne's voters?—Not at the commencement.

Do not you know that in truth Mr. Gisborne, so far from having provided for paying voters, was without money when they began to pay?—I lent him some myself.

Then am I right in supposing that the payment began on the spur of the moment?—It was begun on Mr. Gisborne's part about two or three hours after the commencement of the poll.

But notwithstanding Mr. Gisborne was paying through the first day, after it had commenced was not Mr. Hawkes even ahead on that day's poll?—He was.

Although there had been this contrivance for giving 2*l.* to those that voted

Mr. *John Marson.*

13 July 1836.

for Gisborne and Campbell, and 1*l.* to those that voted for Gisborne and Hawkes?—Yes.

What has become of the young gentleman that was with Mr. Lee?—I do not know?—I do not recollect his name; I think he might be found.

What was Mr. Lee?—He was a private agent to Mr. Gisborne; he resided at Manchester; he had a coal wharf there.

Do you remember Mr. Hawkes publicly stating that he would not give a farthing at the election?—I did not hear the statement made, but I believe it to be correct; it was commonly reported in the town that he would not give a sixpence at the election.

Had the workmen at Stafford been at play a good deal when the election began?—They had been off a fortnight or three weeks.

Then, being men at weekly wages, there must have been a good deal of distress amongst the families?—I can speak to that fact myself; I supplied many of the families with things out of my own pocket.

Do you mean to say that the families of many of those persons were in a state of destitution?—They were in want of bread.

Was that the case when Mr. Gisborne began to pay this money?—It was.

Did you go round canvassing any part of the time with Mr. Gisborne?—I think not, in 1831; I might go round a few hours.

When you went those few hours did you hear Mr. Gisborne promise money, or did you hear any voter ask for money; or say anything that showed he expected it?—I never heard the least promise made.

Do you know whether Mr. Gisborne borrowed a sum of money, 300*l.*, from Sirdefield of the Swan?—He did.

It was paid to you and to Mr. Lee?—Mr. Sirdefield brought it and gave it to Mr. Lee.

Do you know also whether another of the candidates, now the Attorney-General, lent him some money at that election?—I do not know that he did.

You have been asked with respect to the election of 1830; at that election you say there was not a shilling paid by anybody, so far as you knew?—Not a farthing paid.

With respect to the treating, did you ever know an election in any town where there was not a good deal of ale given, and so forth?—I believe there is at other places, worse than Stafford.

Did you ever know an election where there was not a good deal of treating?—No.

Do you mean by treating, that persons who chose to drink might go in and drink without paying for it?—Yes; that is all the treating there was; a little ale.

And no question asked, whether the man is a friend of A. or a friend of B., or whether he is a voter at all?—That was immaterial; anybody that liked.

I understand you to mean, that a public-house is told, "you may supply 10*l.*, or supply 5*l.*;" and when that is gone then there is no more till a fresh order is given?—Generally 1*l.* or 2*l.*

Are you speaking of the facts that took place in 1830 and 1831?—In 1830.

Was there any treating in 1831?—In 1831 I did not go round.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Were you present when the orders were given to the publicans in 1830?—I was, some of the times.

You did not pay the bills?—Mr. Lee paid every thing as he went on.

Have you any notion of the amount that Mr. Lee paid upon that occasion for publicans' bills?—I have not.

What they amount to you have no notion?—No.

You say that some of the men had been off their work before the election of 1831; what do you mean by that?—Generally about a fortnight before the election, they get drums and fifes, and go round the town, and that takes the men off the work.

How had the men been supported during that time; at whose cost did they live?—At their own principally; they got a little ale; nothing else.

What do you mean by a little ale; do you mean that they would not be in the public-houses all day long?—I do not know; they would be going round the town three or four times a day.

Were not those that did not go round the town in public-houses?—Some of them.

Were

Mr. *John Marson.*

13 July 1836.

Were not the great majority of them all day in the public-houses?—Perhaps one half of them.

All day long?—Not all day long.

The principal part of the day?—Half of the day, perhaps.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Thomas Davies Weaver was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

T. D. Weaver.

Mr. *Rushton.*] YOU are a solicitor of Stafford?—I am.

Were you a friend of Mr. Hawkes's election in 1830?—I was.

Do you remember Mr. Hawkes coming to the borough?—Yes; I was one that fetched him.

What day did he arrive?—I cannot recollect it now, it is so long since.

Had the other candidates been in the town some time before?—I believe they had.

Was he what is called the third man upon that occasion?—He was.

Have you got a packet of tickets?—I have a list of 10*s.* tickets. I would wish to state, that in my evidence before I said that I was not sure whether it was a 5*s.* or a 10*s.* ticket; I now find it was one 10*s.* ticket.

By whom was it given?—I gave it, because the other candidates had done the same; at least I was told so.

Will you produce the tickets? [*The Witness produced the same.*]

Are the lists in your writing?—No; the lists are not in my writing.

Did the parties come with those tickets?—I believe they did; but I fetched the money out of the bank, and gave it to Mr. Spilsbury with instructions to give them 10*s.*, which I believe he did.

Was that given indiscriminately to the voters?—It was given to the burgesses.

Did you make a list of those tickets?—They made a list of them as they paid them; but I should observe that that was without Mr. Hawkes's knowledge at the moment.

But they were paid upon those tickets?—They were paid.

Were those tickets given to you as vouchers?—Those tickets were given to me as vouchers for the 350*l.*

Will you deliver in those tickets? [*The same were delivered in.*]

Was any money expended by Mr. Hawkes during that election?—There was some ale and spirits given.

Was it given at the public-houses to voters?—Yes.

Have you an account of that expenditure?—I have the account in part.

Have you got it now?—It is not a correct account; I have part of an account. I delivered a proper account to Mr. Hawkes. This is the account I have. [*Producing the same.*]

This amounts to about 150*l.*—Yes.

Have you any other account?—I have an account of the 350*l.*; of the tickets.

Is that the only account you have of the treating?—That is the only account I have of the treating. There were some few bills remained unpaid, that a gentleman came from Dudley afterwards to settle.

Was that the amount of the sum you paid?—Yes; where I have put paid against them.

Will you deliver it in? [*The Witness delivered in the same.*]

A LIST of PUBLICANS' BILLS charged on Mr. *Weaver's* Account, and paid for. (See his Account on the other side, with Mr. *Hawkes.*)

	£.	s.	d.	
Ward Cock	10	0	0	p[d].
Jobbins	2	0	0	p[d].
Waggon and Horses	2	0	0	p[d].
Hawkins	2	0	0	p[d].
Brassington	4	0	0	p[d].
Windmill	2	0	0	p[d].
Vine Bill	38	0	0	p[d]. 35.
Draper	12	0	0	p[d].
Trumpet	27	18	0	p[d].
Sun (Green)	0	18	8	p[d].
	£. 100	16	8	

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BILLS delivered by Mr. *Bourne*, May 23, as not being discharged; and to be examined, and the orders exhibited, which the parties ordering are to certify if correct or not.

	£.	s.	d.	
Wheatsheaf	5	0	0	p^{d}. 4
Third	14	5	0	
Barrott	5	0	0	
Fallows	2	10	0	p^{d}.
Fox	2	0	0	
Plume Feathers	5	4	8	p^{d} 5
John Rogers	5	0	0	
White Hart	2	0	0	p^{d}.
Critchly	7	0	0	
Waggon and Horses	0	3	0	
Total	£.48	2	8	

How much more had you received from Mr. Hawkes?—I had 500*l.* from Mr. Hawkes on account of the expenditure.

Did you know any other person who expended money for Mr. Hawkes upon that occasion?—No.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

This list is in your handwriting?—No; it is not entirely in my handwriting; some of it is, where I have put paid.

Did you put that paid yourself?—Yes. It was from the account rendered to Mr. Hawkes by me.

This was copied from that account?—That was copied at the time from that account.

It is an accurate copy, is it?—There is no question about that.

Have you looked through these tickets?—No; I have never opened them.

You do not know what names are upon them?—No, I do not.

You did not distribute them yourself?—No.

Nor did you pay the money for them yourself?—I paid money to Mr. Spilsbury.

What he did with it you do not know of your own knowledge?—No; I do not know to my own knowledge, except as producing a list of these tickets to account for it.

A list made out by himself?—No; a list made out, I believe, by Mr. John Smith and another person.

Then whether or not that money was so disposed of you cannot tell?—I do not know anything of it, except that I believe it to have been so disposed of.

Do you know how many voted for Mr. Hawkes at that election?—No, I do not recollect now.

Three hundred and five, was not that the number?—I dare say that is correct.

Who you say received no money at all for those votes?—I did not say anything at all of the sort.

Are you aware of any money having been paid for those votes?—No, I am not.

Were you aware of any money being paid by Mr. Hawkes at that election?—There was no other money, except the tickets, that I am aware of.

The total of the money that you spent was 500*l.*?—I cannot say that I received 500*l.* from Captain Hawkes; it might have been more.

The idea of giving those tickets originated with yourself?—I believe it did, because the other party had given them.

You were not instructed by Captain Hawkes to do so?—No, I was not. Captain Hawkes supposed that he would be returned without any tickets, or anything of the sort.

Did you examine the publicans' accounts?—Yes, I examined some of them.

They were small bills each?—Yes, very small; some of them 3*l.*, some 5*l.*, some 10*l.* or 20*l.* perhaps.

As far as you know, nothing was given for votes at that election by either of the candidates?—I am only speaking for Captain Hawkes.

As far as you know was anything given for the votes for the others?—I was not present when anything was given.

By

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By a Lord.] Did you give directions to Spilsbury to pay these?—Yes; I understood that the other parties had given 10*s.*, and that we were advised to do the same, and I fetched 300*l.* out of the bank, and gave it to Mr. Spilsbury, with instructions to give 10*s.* tickets.

When was that; before the election?—Before the election.

How many days?—I cannot say how many days. I can tell when I had the money out; it was on the 29th of July I had 300*l.* out; and the 30th July I find I had 50*l.* more out.

The other parties had been giving tickets for some time before that?—I understood they had done so; that was the reason why I was advised it was necessary to place Mr. Hawkes in the same situation.

You drew your own money out for that purpose, probably not with the intention of advancing it without a profitable repayment?—When I went for Mr. Hawkes I went in haste, at the request of a great many of the burgesses, and Mr. Hawkes said, "I must go home to get money." I said, "What you want I will supply you with."

Why did the burgesses wish to have Mr. Hawkes?—They thought he would be a proper person. They wanted a third man.

Mr. Hawkes said, "I must go home for some money?"—He said it would be necessary to bring some.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

John Smith was called in, and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

John Smith.

Mr. *Rushton.*] ARE you a resident in the borough of Stafford?—I am.

Are you a freeman of the borough?—I am.

Are you a 10*l.* householder?—I am a burgess by servitude.

Do you live in a 10*l.* house in the borough?—I do.

Do you remember the election of 1830?—I do.

Were you a friend of Mr. Hawkes upon that occasion?—I was.

Did you receive any money from Mr. Weaver?—I did not.

Do you know a person of the name of Spilsbury?—I do.

Do you remember about the time of the election paying or being present when any tickets were paid by Spilsbury?—I do.

Where were they paid?—At the White Lion public-house.

By whom were they paid?—By George Spilsbury.

Did you assist?—I wrote some names down.

Did you write those names on sheets of paper?—I did.

What did you do with the list so written?—I do not know what became of it; I think Spilsbury took it with him.

Have you seen it since?—I have.

Where did you see it?—Mr. Parkes showed it to me.

[*Several papers were shown to the Witness.*]

Will you look at those sheets of paper; do you know that handwriting?—Yes.

Is that yours?—That is not mine. That is mine. [*Pointing it out.*]

Whose handwriting is the other?—His name is Cornwall.

Was he with you at the time?—He was.

Where is he?—He is dead.

Will you deliver in those papers?

[*The same were delivered in, and are as follow:*]

John Ridden.	John Bicket, esquire.	John Hawkins.
Joseph Follows.	Jos. Croxon.	Richard Ryley.
George Tonks.	Edward Birch.	Edward Barker.
James Patterson.	John Bee.	J. Keeling.
L. Spilsbury, senior.	Charles Wilshaw.	Samuel Hawkins.
Thomas Trigger.	Joseph Mills.	Thomas Smith.
John Cothill.	William Shaw.	Edward Smith.
Henry Birch.	W. Stanton.	J. Birch.
Robert Harvey.	W. Wynne, senior.	Richard Bill.
W. Bailey.	G. Ferneyhough.	Ed. Holmes.
W. Insley.	Samuel Walsbroook.	Samuel Follows, senior.
John Abberley, senior.	Edward Bott.	Thomas B. Hammersley.
John Abberley, junior.	Robert Horne.	H. B. Cook.

John Smith.

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William Blackland.
Richard Blackland.
Richard Edwards.
Isaac Hammersley.
W. Kent.
G. Hundrill.
W. Wright.
Thomas Venables.
Richard Ryley, senior.
W. Cottiril.
John Neil.
G. Robotham, senior.
Joseph Stanton.
W. Gibbons.
Richard Abberley.
Thomas Goodwin.
Thomas Stokes.
Thomas Sutton.
E. Collier.
W. Finlowe.
John Wilson Thacker.
G. Meeson.
James Cartwright.
H. Allen.
Michael Hawkins, senior.
Thomas Bradshaw.
John Wood.
Thomas Keen.
W. Kenderdine.
Thomas Jones.
I. Leese.
John Hodson.
W. Hodson.
J. Phillipps.
W. Barnett.
Joseph Holdford.
Thomas Bould.
J. Tuttle Perkins.
W. Austin.
W. Booth.
Walter Southall.
W. Cornwall.
D. Cook.
W. Barratt.
John Goodall, senior.
Do. junior.
M. Hall.
G. M. Crewe.
John Careless.
John Bates.
John Bennett.
Joseph Illsley.
W. Bickerton,
Joseph Riley.
John Taylor.
John Bailey.
W. Crutchley.
John Stokes.
H. Moore.
R. Moore, son of Henry.
John Hodson, son of Thomas.
John Stanton, son of Edward.
Thomas Thompson.
Thomas Hubball.
T. P. Follows.
W. Kinderdine.
John Plant.
W. Brough.
George Morris.
W. Morris.
Thomas Bradbury.
W. Clewlow.
Thomas Brough.
Thomas Nutt.
John Biddulph.

George Hand.
W. Goodwin.
J. Brittles.
John Bickerton.
G. Moore.
John Moseley.
G. Moseley.
L. Pilsbury.
Robert Hart.
James Careless.
G. Griffin.
Richard Blakeman.
Thomas Corfield.
Thomas Taylor.
Joseph Taylor.
R. W. Smith.
G. Johnson.
B. Knight.
Thomas Hill.
E. Hill.
Joseph Weaver.
W. Rogers.
John Blakeman.
W. Millington.
Thomas Finlow.
E. Thorpe.
Joseph Thorpe.
G. Wetton.
John Bould.
Thomas Snape.
Joseph Pearce.
John Bladon.
William Ford.
W. Lawton.
W. Nevitt.
James Salt.
James Salt, junior.
John Finney.
John Moreton.
Thomas Furrier.
Francis Machin.
James Moreton.
Michael Simpson.
John Bott.
Abraham Aston.
John Coates.
E. Snape.
John Painter.
Robert Boulton.
Thomas Slater.
Thomas Stanley.
Thomas Careless.
P. Dale.
G. Norcop.
Bing Shenton.
Elias Tavernor.
W. J. Baggerly.
W. Jones, son of Robert.
W. Stanton.
Edward Stanton, senior.
Thomas Carter.
Joseph Bratt.
John Uncles.
Samuel Clews.
W. Holding.
Peter Jones.
Thomas Hall.
John Johnson.
G. Arrowsmith.
John Day.
James Woollaws.
Daniel Dawson.
William Booth.
John Walker.
W. Wynne, junior.

Robert Devoll.
James Mill.
Charles Hall.
James Perkin.
Ephraim Hassall.
Charles Beadmore.
Thomas Harvey.
George Godwin, junior.
John Godwin.
W. Gilbert.
Abraham Bullock.
Thomas Parker.
Roger Middleton:
John Boot.
Thomas Bladon.
George Biddulph.
Job Jenkinson.
John Tonks.
Thomas Hodson.
James Dudley.
Thomas Stringer.
John James, junior.
Thomas James.
David Machin.
W. Harding, joiner.
Samuel Riley.
Michael Riley.
John Shenton.
Ditto, junior.
John Heath.
Thomas Heath.
W. Heath.
Francis Heath.
Richard Meeson.
Samuel Clews, junior.
Thomas Wood.
John Clewlowe.
John Gilbert, senior.
John Hammersley.
W. Stringer.
Thomas Wood.
W. Lloyd.
R. Beamond.
Samuel Ray.
Edward Brookes.
James Horsenail.
Thomas Dudley.
G. Robotham, junior.
James Hawkins.
Richard Bridgeir.
Samuel Follows, junior.
B. Dickenson.
W. Biddulph.
Thomas Boulton.
Thomas Dudley.
John Bromley,
Thomas Dickenson.
John Ford, son of William.
Richard Smith, joiner.
Charles Moore.
Edward Moore.
Richard Hill.
W. Hill.
John Greenwood.
John Windsor.
John Matthews.
Thomas Venables.
Thomas Lawton.
Henry Jones.
H. Painter.
Thomas Hodson.
Thomas Lander, senior.
Ditto, junior.
W. H. Smith.
Richard Bentley.

Thomas Emberton.
Richard Lander.
H. Cook.
W. Cook.
Thomas Finlow, junior.
Do. senior.
W. Allen, senior.
James Allen, junior.
Richard Meeson.
John Cook.
John Stanton.
John Ramage.
John Mildig.
Stephen Plant.
Thomas Smith.
Thomas Barnett.
John H. Cook.
Samuel Cottrill.
George Horsenail.
John Hall.
John Hudson.
W. Harding Coustor.
Thomas Austin.
H. Greenwood.
John Hughes.
W. Watwood.
Thomas Hall.
D. Moreton.
Francis Wood.
C. Sutton.
W. Dall.
Lewis Hall.
Humphrey Bailey.
John Meeson.
Charles Nevitt.
Brian Nevitt.
John Smith.
Henry Day.
Francis Day.
Francis Wynne, senior.
E. Wynne.
Thomas Allen.
Charles Davenhill.
Richard Stonier.
James Hodson.
Lewis Perkin.
James Meeson.
W. Dickenson.
Richard Moore.
G. Rose.
C. Dutton.
W. Battey.
W. Hawkins, junior.
W. Grattage.
Thomas Perry, junior.
Richard Snape.
Thomas Broose, junior.
George Parker.
John Ferneyhough.
Richard Meeson.
Samuel Clewes, junior.
W. Smith.
Thomas Lockledge.
Jesse Bee.
John Bill, junior.
Thomas Westbrook.
John do.
Robert Wynne.
Do. junior.
Thomas Stanton.
W. Boult.
Robert Bishop.
Thomas Peake.
John Carter.
W. Till.

James Dale.
Henry Shaw.
W. Johnson.
Edward Hill, junior.
W. Thompson.
Thomas Bill.
Richard Howe.
John Beardmore.
James Lowe.
James Riley.
John Boulton.
W. Day.
Thomas Day.
Thomas Ford.
W. Harvey.
Joseph Painter.
E. Follows.
W. Wilkes.
John Bratt.
Thomas Wilkes.
John Wilkes.
William Pickin.
Edward Pickin.
Thomas Wood.
W. Dycke.
Charles Dutton, senior.
Robert Wardle.
Samuel Riley.
James Ansell.
George Wickstead.
Thomas Hartle.
Richard Follows.
John Shaw.
Charles Dudley.
John Russel.
George Godson.
John Hawkins.
Edward Hawkins.
Acton Picken.
James Packie, son of John.
G. Tavernor.
John Parker.
John Brown.
Francis Draper.
Thomas Greenoff.
Thomas Draper.
W. Bird.
S. Gilbert.
John Barnes.
John Robinson.
Jos. Bowers.
G. Bentley.
John Fernyhough.
George Parker.
John Till.
Francis Till.
Samuel Hodson.
John Spilsbury, Pens.
Thomas Orrige.
Charles Hawkers.
John Biddulph, junior.
John Mountford.
Richard Mountford.
E. Wood.
Thomas Pool.
E. Lloyd.
James Whitehead.
Francis Moreton.
James Butler.
Richard Goodwin.
W. Finlowe, senior.
John Ward.
Thomas Cook.
Lewis Hall.
G. Turner.

G. Hodgson, 7 Draf.
G. Keats.
Thomas Follows.
John Lawley.
W. Linne.
Francis Wood.
John Ward.
Thomas Cook.
Thomas Wilson.
John Finlowe, son of Thomas.
John Dudley.
George Painter.
John Follows.
W. Bentley.
Acton Picken, junior.
John Garland.
Thomas Nevitt.
Joseph Wood.
Enoch Hall.
Gregory Harrison.
James Spilsbury.
Thomas Perry, junior.
John Deakin.
Thomas Watwood.
Stephenson Shuton, junior.
Do. junior.
James Keats.
Henry Vickers.
Joseph Painter.
Thomas Woolridge.
F. Phillips.
Thomas Harding.
John Money.
Joseph Riley.
Charles Johnson.
Thomas Williams.
Robert Evans.
W. Perry.
James Godwin.
John James.
John Evans.
Thomas Key.
James Goodwin.
G. Wood
Joseph Fowler.
W. Day.
Thomas Brough.
Robert Cadman.
Charles Johnson.
John Johnson.
Peter Mitchell.
W. Mitchell.
Sam. Ritchill.
Thomas Parker.
Walter Cartwright.
John Meeson.
Richard Smith.
George Follows.
Peter Woodwis.
Edward Orpier.
Thomas Swift.
John Shirley, junior.
John Shirley, senior.
James Devoll, junior.
Henry Ward.
John Tagg Serjeant.
John Dain.
W. Hodgkins.
Thomas Prosser.—Paid Prosser's expenses, 10*s.* - 20*s.*
W. Robotham.
Stephen Griffin.
W. Bratt.
Francis Bratt.
John Wood.

John Smith.

13 July 1836.

(*continued.*)

John Smith.

13 July 1836.

Moses Rogers.
G. Dall.
Samuel Beesh.
W. Phillipps.
John Allen.
Thomas Peckin.
James Silvester.
John Clewlowe, shoemaker.
John Ward.
Thomas Picken.
John Hawkins.
Robert Jones, senior.
Richard Jones.
George Ansell.
William Humphreys.
Charles Insley.
Thomas Insley.
William Mountford.
John Gilbert, junior.
John Follows.
John Simpson.
Michael Moseley.
William Snape.
Stephen Snape.
Benjamin Bott.
Charles Boult.
Thomas Bruce.
John Garland.
Jos. Mellor.
John Tabbinor.
Jos. Careless.
Edward Careless.
Thomas Perry.
Isaac Deavall.
Thomas Kenderdine.
Benjamin Kenderdine.
George Deakin.
William Padmore.
William Padmore.
William Griffin.
Robert Haywood.
Edward Mountford.
John Nutt.
William Danford.
John Goodall.
Daniel Moreton.
John Langley.
Joseph Bradshaw.
James Hawkins.
John Dodd.
William Moore.
Joseph Evans.
Daniel Cook.
William Barrett.
John Russell.
John Battey.
Thomas Hill.
John Horsnail.
John Careless.
John Bates.
Thomas Moreton.
William Moreton.
Jos. Hodson.
John Hodson.
Robert Jones, junior.
Thomas Clewes.
Sam. Taylor.
John Paddisen.
John Goodwin.
James Emery, senior.
Omar Hall.
Charles Machin.
Thomas Machin.
Richard Mountford.
John Follows.

John Stanton.
Richard Butler.
Thomas Dickin.
Nat. Snape.
John Wheaterer.
Jos. Day.
John Caithness.
John Salt.
James Pilsbury.
William Bott.
Thomas Stubbs.
Charles Davenhall.
Henry Bailey.
John Meeson.
T. Phœnix Follows.
William Kenderdine.
William Mitchell.
John Beardmore.
Thomas Hubbard.
William Moore.
Thomas Boulton.
Robert Jones.
Jos. Lea.
James Jones.
Richard Smith.
George Follows.
John Ilsley.
William Shirley.
Stephen Hibball.
Jos. Williams.
John Tonks.
Thomas Hudson.
T. W. Parkes.
Thomas Word.
John Whether.
Jos. Day.
Jefrey Bee.
John Bill, junior.
Thomas Moore.
William Moore.
Ephraim Emberton.
Thomas Follows.
William Godwin.
John Snape.
Thomas Ward.
George Day.
William Shirley.
Edward Kenderdine.
Robert Nevett.
Henry Hart.
Thomas Bladon.
John Boot.
W. Snape.
G. Edwards.
D. Moreton.
Francis Wood.
John Tildesley.
James Tildesley.
Thomas Lawton.
H. Jones.
L. Spilsbury, senior.
L. , junior.
W. Johnson.
Jos. Eley.
John Ashton.
John Bill.
George Godwin.
Henry Tavernor.
M. Slim.
Thomas Swinster.
Thomas Brooze.
Thomas Andrews.
Thomas Hawkins.
R. Tildesley.
James Home.

Richard Parker.
W. Bailey.
Thomas Guest.
John Wood.
Thomas Percy, senior.
W. Haywood.
John Godwin.
C. Clewlows.
J. Kenderdine.
Sam. Cook.
John Fowler.
Thomas Simpson.
Thomas Wright.
W. Dickenson.
W. Wynn.
George Wynne.
John Shilley.
Robert Boulton.
J. Abberley.
J. Lawley.
W. Ecclestone.
Richard Meeson.
H. Goodhall.
H. Goodall, son of John.
Thomas Wood.
G. Wood.
J. Bott.
J. Edwards.
T. Thornton.
C. Thornton.
John Brunolt.
James Illsley.
G. Parker.
John Furnyhough.
G. Lawton.
Robert Thorpe.
H. Sargeant.
Jacob Follows.
Richard Bott.
W. Plant.
W. Brown.
J. Cook, junior.
W. Pierce.
Joseph Hilliman.
G. Thorp.
Joseph Follows, junior.
Thomas Earp.
John Lloyd.
John Orton.
John Bladon.
W. Edwards.
S. Godwin.
W. Battey.
John Battey.
Samuel Ecclestone.
Thomas Penny.
Samuel Stokes.
Frederick Smith.
Robert Lakin.
Frederick Holdford.
Peter Tonks.
Edward Day.
Richard Stouin.
Robert Wynne.
G. Halden.
H. Percy.
Joseph Keen.
Robert Newbold.
Ralph Hammersley.
Matthew Cottrill.
James Smith.
Jonathan Walton.
John Godwin.
John Rose.
John Birtles.

John Smith.
G. Fernyhough.
W. Wynne.
Moses Bailey.
John Tooth.
George Banks.
Thomas Brindley.
John Goodall, junior.
John Goodall, senior.
Thomas Bradshaw.
John Wood.
John Ecclestone.
James Ecclestone.
Thomas Lake.
John Bladon.
John Bailey.
Francis Wynne, junior.
James Allen.
Richard Bee.
W. Bee.
W. James, junior.

Thomas Bullock Gandy.
W. Brookes.
G. Godson.
J. Chedlow, junior.
J. Chedlow, senior.
G. Riddins.
W. Gilbert.
J. Johnston.
Thomas Bradbury.
Thomas Gallimore.
J. Brown.
Thomas Hodson.
Thomas Bill.
Henry Birch.
Theo. Bill.
Jos. Astbury.
E. Follows, son of John.
James Tutter Dickins.
W. Austin.
Thomas Mountford.
Richard Mountford.

James Allen.
W. Godwin.
James Frith, junior.
Ditto senior.
T. Mould.
James Emberton.
R. Ben.
W. Ben.
Joseph Harrison.
C. H. Harrison.
John Eley.
James Hornsley.
George Nevitt.
Thomas Wood.
George Wood.
E Bott.
Thomas Follows.
E. Devoll.
Walter Birch.
Thomas Taylor.
Jos Taylor.

Will you look at those tickets [*the tickets produced by the last Witness*]; are those the sort of tickets that were brought?—They are.

Do you recollect tying them up in this form?—Spilsbury tied them up.

Did you see him tie them up in this form?—I believe I was present when he tied them up.

[*The same were delivered in, and are as follow:*]

Robert Wynne.
Robert Wynne, junior.

William Boult.
Thomas Stanton.

R. Meeson.
J. Clewes, junior.

William Smith.
Thomas Sockledge.

Charles Dutton.

George Parker.
John Ferneyhough.

Thomas Westbrook.
John Westbrook.

William Johnson.
Edward Hill, junior.

Thomas Ford.
William Harvey.

James Silvester.
Thomas Perkins.

Thomas Wilkes.
John Wilkes.

Thomas Wood.
William Dyche.

James Dale.
Henry Shaw.

William Thompson.
Thomas Bill.

Thomas Perry, junior.
Richard Snape.

William Battey Monsum.
William Hawkins, jun.
William Grattage.
John Broose.

John Russell.
George Godson.

Richard Howe.
Joseph Beardmore.

Thomas Hartell.
Richard Follows.

Robert Bishop.
Thomas Peake.

William Wilkes.
John Bratt.

John Boulton.

William Day.
Thomas Day.

Joseph Painter.
Edward Follows.

James Ansell.
George Wexted.

Robert Wardle.
Samuel Riley.

William Picken.
Edward Picken.

John Shaw.
Charles Dudley.

John Hawkins.
Edward Hawkins.

John Carter.
William Till.

James Lowe.
James Riley.

William Blackburn.
Richard Blackburn.

William Wright.
Thomas Venables.

George Tonks.
James Paddison.

John Redding.
Joseph Follows.

L. Pilsbury, senior.

Thomas Tugger.
John Cotterill.

John Beckett.

John Abberley, senior.
John Abberley, junior.

Henry Birch.
Robert Harvey.

Jos. Croxton.

William Bailey.
William Insley.

Edward Birch.
John Bee.

Charles Wilshaw.
Jos. Mills.

 (*continued.*)

John Smith.

13 July 1836.

William Shaw.
William Stanton.
W. Wynne, senior.
G. Fernyhough.

John Yates.
James Hubball.

John Keeling.
Samuel Hawkins.

Richard Riley.
Edward Barker.

Robert Horn.
John Hawkins.

Thomas Smith.
Edward Smith.

Samuel Westbrook.

Edward Bott.

John Birch.
Richard Bill.

William Kent.
George Hundrel.

John Neild.
George Robotham, sen.

Thomas Goodwin.
Thomas Stokes.

Richard Abberley.

Thomas Sutton.
Edward Collier.

Richard Edwards.
Isaac Hammersley.

Joseph Stanton.
William Gibbons.

T. B. Hammersley.
Henry Cook.

Edward Holmes.
Samuel Follows, senior.

James Tuttle Perkins.
William Austin.

George Meeson.
James Cartwright.

Henry Allen.
Michael Hawkins.

Thomas Keen.
William Kenderdine.

Charles Beardmore.
Thomas Harvey.

Thomas Bradshaw.
John Wood.

John Phillips.
William Barnett.

John Hodgson.
Nicholas Hodson.

William Finlow.
John Wilson Thacker.

John Leese.
Thomas Jones.

John Careless.
John Bates.

John Bladon.
William Ford.

William Booth.
Walter Southall.

John Tayler.
John Bailey.

Daniel Cooke.
William Barratt.

Henry Moore.
Richard Moore, son of Henry.

Michael Hall.
G. M. Crewe.

William Bickerton.
Joseph Riley.

John Bennett.
Joseph Ilsley.

John Hodgson, son of Thomas.
John Stanton, son of Edward.

John Goodall, senior.
John Goodall, junior.

William Lawton.
William Nevett.

James Salt.
James Salt, junior.

Francis Machin.
Thomas Turner.
James Moreton.

William Crutchley.
John Stokes.

Thomas Bradbury.
William Clewlow.

Thomas Thompson.
Thomas Hubball.

Richard Riley, senior.
William Cotterill.

James Horsenail.
Thomas Dudley.

George Robotham, junior.
Joseph Hawkins.

John Plant.
William Brough.

Benjamin Knight.
Thomas Hill.

John Finney.
John Moreton.

William Millington.
Thomas Finlow.

Edward Snape.
John Painter.

T. P. Fallows.
William Kenderdine.

John Biddulph.
George Hurd.

Thomas Brough.
Thomas Nutt.

Joseph Holdford.
Blind Bould.

William Goodwin.
James Birtles.

Thomas Taylor.
James Taylor.

Richard Budgin.
Samuel Follows, junior.

Thomas Carter.
Joseph Bratt.

James Careless.
George Griffin.

John Mosley.
George Mosley.

Thomas Snape.
Joseph Pearce.

Robert Boulton.
Thomas Slater.

W. J. Baggerley.
W. Jones, son of Robert.

Richard Blakeman.
Thomas Corfield.

George Morris.
William Morris.

R. W. Smith.
George Johnson.

George Welton.
John Bould.

William Rogers.
John Blakemore.

Edward Hill.
Jos. Weaver.

Edward Thorpe.
Jos. Thorpe.

John Bickerton.
George Moore.

Thomas Stanley.
Thomas Carless.

Lewis Filsbury Gardener.
Richard Hart.

Michael Simpson.
John Bott.

Abraham Aston.
John Coats.

P. Dale.
G. Norcop.

Benjamin Shenton.
Elias Tavernor.

William Stanton.
Edward Stanton, senior.

William Holding.
Peter Jones.

George Arrowsmith.
John Day.

William Wynne, junior.
Richard Deavall.

William Booth.
John Walker.

Jos. Mills.
Charles Hall.

John Heath.
Thomas Heath.

Thomas Hall.
John Johnson.

James Woollams.
Daniel Dawson.

George Godwin, junior.
John Godwin.

William Gilbert.
Abraham Bullock.

James Dudley.
Thomas Stringer.

John Shenton.
John Shenton, junior.

James Perkin.
Ephraim Hassall.

John Bent.
Thomas Bladon.

William Lloyd.
Richard Beaumond.

George Biddulph.
Job Jenkinson.

John James, junior.
Thomas James.

William Heath.
Francis Heath.

John Tonks.
Thomas Hodson.

David Machin.
William Harding, junior.

Samuel Riley.
Michael Riley.

John Gilbert, senior.
John Hammersley.

Thomas Parker.
Roger Middleton.

John Uncles.
Samuel Clewes.

Thomas Wood.
John Clewlow.

Samuel Ray.
Edward Brookes.

William Stringer.
Thomas Wood.

Thomas Boulton.
Thomas Dudley.

Charles Moore.
Edward Moore.

Richard Hill.
William Hill.

William Dickenson.
Richard Moore.

John Bromley.
Thomas Dickenson.

Benjamin Dickenson.
William Biddulph.

Henry Painter.
Thomas Hodson.

John Greenwood.
John Windsor.

Thomas Lawton.
Henry Jones.

Henry Day.
Francis Day.

John Ford, son of William.
Richard Smith, junior.

Humphrey Bayley.
John Meeson.

John Matthews.
Thomas Venables.

Thomas Emberton.
Richard Lander.

Richard Meeson.
Samuel Clewes, junior.

Thomas Lander, senior.
Thomas Lander junior.

William H. Smith.
Richard Bentley.

H. Cook.
William Cook.

Thomas Furlow, junior.
Do. senior.
W. Allen, senior
James Allen, junior.
Richard Meeson.
John Cook.
John Stanton.
John Ramage.

Thomas Smith.
Thomas Barnett.

John H. Cook.
Samuel Cotterill.

George Horsenail.
John Hall.

Charles Sutton.
William Dale.

John Wildig.
Stephen Plant.

Thomas Austin.
Henry Greenwood.
John Hughes.

John Hudson.
William Harding, Constable.

Charles Nevett.
Brian Nevett.

Daniel Moreton.
Francis Wood.

Thomas Allen.
Charles Davenhill.

William Watwood.
Thomas Hall.

John Smith.

George Rose.
C. Dutton.

Lewis Perkin.
James Meeson.

Richard Stonier.
James Hodson.

Francis Wynne, junior.
E. Wynne.

Lewis Hall.

Thomas Brace.
Thomas Andrews.

Samuel Cook.

William Elsmore.
Samuel Godwin.

(*continued.*)

John Smith.

13 July 1836.

Richard Bee.
William Bee.

Abraham Godwin.
John Snape.

James Allen.
William Godwin.

William Brown.
John Cook, junior.

Thomas Moreton.
William Moreton.

Robert Laikin.
Frederick Holdford.

William Mountford.
John Gilbert, junior.

John Beardmore.

Edward Deval.
Walter Birch.

James Brown.
Thomas Gallimore.

William Snape.
George Edwards.

W. Shirley.
Edward Kenderdine.

Jos. Harrison.
Charles Harrison.

William Johnson.
Jos. Eley.

John Russell.
John Battey.

Richard Bott.
William Blunt.

John Stanton.
Richard Butler.

Thomas Bladon.

Thomas Hodgson.
Thomas Bill.

John Caithness.
John Salt.

Thomas Hill.
John Horsenail.

George Barnes.
Thomas Brindley.

Henry Sargeant.
Jacob Follows.

Thomas Simpson.
Thomas Wright.

Thomas Erp.
John Lloyd.

Robert Nevett.
Henry Hart.

William Moore.
Jos. Evans.

Thomas Hubbard.

William Bailey.
Thomas Guest.

Robert Jones, junior.
Thomas Clews.

Benjamin Bott.
Charles Boult.

Thomas Mountford.
Richard Mountford.

Samuel Stokes.
Frederick Smith.

Charles Clewlowe.
John Kenderdine.

Richard Arrowsmith.
Thomas Arrowsmith.

Jos. Hodson.
John Hodson

George Deakin.
William Padmore.

Samuel Ecclestone.
Thomas Perry.

William Griffin.
William Padmore.

George Godwin.
Henry Tavernor.

John Goodall, the son of William.
Daniel Moreton.

Thomas Insley.

John Eley.
Jos. Eley.

John Shirley.
William Shirley.

Thomas Wiston Parkes.
Thomas Wood.

James Smith.
Jonathan Walton.

George Dickenson.

William Moore.

John Paddison.
John Godwin.

Thomas Hawkins.
Richard Tildersley.

Jos. Astbury.

William Pearce.
Jos. Hiltman.

John Shilley.

Joseph Mellor.

John Follows.
Michael Moseley.

George Thorpe.
Jos. Follows, junior.

George Reddins.
William Gilbert.

Thomas Bold.
James Emberton.

Theophilus Bill.

John Follows, Nanty.
Richard Mountford.

Ephraim Emberton.
Thomas Follows.

George Halden.
Henry Percy.

Ralph Hammersley.
Matthew Cotterill.

Thomas Ward.
George Day.

Henry Goodall.
Henry Goodall, son of John.

Robert Haywood.
Edward Mountford.

Thomas Thornton.
Charles Thornton.

William Haywood.
John Godwin.

Charles Ilsley.
Thomas Ilsley.

James Hawkins.
John Dodd.

Moses Bailey.
John Tooth.

Thomas Pickin.
Nathaniel Snape.

John Nutt.
William Darnford.

John Birtles.
John Smith, East-street.

John Abberley.

William Brookes.

W. Taylor.
John Guest.

Thomas Kenderdine, Dina.
Benjamin Kenderdine.

James Emery.
Aaron Hall.

James Hornsby.
George Nevitt.

John Godwin.
John Rose.

John Ecclestone.
Joseph Ecclestone.

William Snape.
Stephen Snape.

Thomas Lake.

Peter Forbes.
Edward Day.

John Tildesley.
James Tildesley.

George Ansell.
William Humphrey.

Edward Bott.
Thomas Follows.

John Chidlowe, senior.
John Chidlowe, junior.

George Lawton.
Robert Thorp.

John Ford.

Michael Glinn.
Thomas Simester.

John Orton.
John Bladon.

James Simpson.
Richard Hillman.

William Bates.
George Bates.

Charles Machin.
Thomas Machin.

William Wynne.
George Wynne.

Richard Stonier.
Robert Wynne.

Thomas Stubbs.
Charles Davenhall.

James Bott.
John Edwards.

Thomas Perry.
Isaac Deval.

Jos. Hurd.
Richard Hurd.
George Jenkinson.
George Moore.

James Horne.
George Parker.

H. Pulling.
H. Stringer.

Jos. Keen.
Robert Newbold.

James Bullock.
Richard Bullock.

John Langley.
Jos. Bradshaw.

William Pilsbury.

Thomas Moore.
William Moore.

Francis Wynne, jun.
James Allen.

James Frith, senior.
James Frith, junior.

Samuel Taylor.
Jos. Harris.

James Hawkins.
William Nield.

John Simpson.

John Bladon.

John Weatherer.
Jos. Day.

L. Spilsbury, junior.
L. Spilsbury, senior.

Ale at the Lion, paid by G. Spilsbury - 17*s.*

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

Who were the persons who came to be paid?—The persons whose names appear upon that paper.

Were those all burgesses?—I could not swear that they were.

You knew that some of them were burgesses?—Yes.

Did you know in whose interest those persons were?—I cannot tell whose interest they were in.

Do not you know that they came, whether they were in Mr. Hawkes's interest or any other person's?—They might have been in the other candidate's interest as well as Mr. Hawkes's.

They were given to whoever came?—Yes; burgesses, perhaps, some of them.

In short, they were given to whoever came, whether they were burgesses or burgess's wives, or whether they were voters for Mr. Hawkes or for the other candidates?—I could not tell whether they were burgesses or not.

Then in short this is a mere list of names of persons to whom 10*s.* was given?—Yes.

Do not you know that it often happened that one person had more than one ticket?—I am not aware of that; I merely supported Captain Hawkes in his election.

Upon that occasion did it not frequently happen that a person came, say Mr. Collins, and asked for tickets for some other persons as well as for himself?—Yes.

And had those tickets?—Yes; at least had the money.

You did not inquire whether he was authorized or not?—No, we did not.

Upon his application you gave the money?—We paid him.

I do not understand you to say that you knew of your own knowledge that a sum of money was given to the voters for the other candidates?—No, I am not aware of that.

John Smith.

13 July 1836.

Nor can you say, in those instances where one person received more money than for himself, what became of that money?—Undoubtedly not.

Were you also interested for Mr. Hawkes in 1831?—Yes.

Was any money paid by him in that year?—There was not.

Either in the shape of ticket money or for votes?—For neither.

Did you refuse to pay money for Captain Hawkes upon that occasion?—I was never asked.

Did any communication pass between you and Mr. Hawkes with regard to paying money upon that occasion?—None whatever; there was a party offered to pay money for Captain Hawkes, because they could have secured his election for a very small sum, and he refused to accept it.

By a Lord.] How many votes did he poll in 1831?—Four hundred and sixteen.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] At what period of the election was it where Mr. Hawkes refused to pay money?—I think it was the evening of the first day's poll.

After money was paid for Mr. Gisborne?—Yes.

Re-examined by Mr. *Rushton.*

Do I rightly understand you to say that the same parties brought more than one ticket?—The tickets had sometimes two names on each, and one man frequently brought a ticket for himself and for another person.

Did you pay more persons than were named on the tickets?—No.

At whose request did you go to this place to assist in paying the tickets?—I volunteered my own services, I believe; I do not know that any one asked me.

Were you well acquainted with the burgesses of Stafford?—Not so much then.

How long had you been in Stafford?—I had been in Stafford about twelve years before that time.

Had you interfered in elections before that time?—I had not.

What are you at Stafford?—A wine and spirit dealer.

Have you a general knowledge of the people of the town?—I know most of them; but even at the present day I should not know the burgesses generally.

You stated that Mr. Hawkes refused to allow money to be paid for him in 1831; who offered to pay money?—Myself for one, Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Ramey.

What did you propose to pay?—We proposed to raise 50*l.* amongst ourselves.

By a Lord.] Were those tickets paid before the election in 1830?—Before the election.

How long before?—I think two or three days.

Are you sure that it was before the election?—I am.

From whom did you receive the money?—From Mr. Spilsbury; George Spilsbury brought the money, and I paid it.

You know nothing of Weaver having found the money?—I do not.

You say you did not know that those were burgesses; do you mean to say that you sat there and gave the money to anybody that came in with those tickets?—We paid the money to those persons that brought the names upon the tickets.

Whoever they were?—Yes.

Sometimes they were women?—Sometimes they were women.

And sometimes a man brought a ticket with three or four names?—I do not recollect four; I recollect two at a time.

Were they with reference to charity, or with reference to the election?—I should say with reference to the election, to speak the truth.

The names that were scratched out upon the tickets, were they paid or not?—I should fancy not.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

The

The following Return from the Crown Office was delivered in, and read: 13 July 1836.

Borough of Stafford.

Members returned for the said Borough from 1820 to the present Time, with the Dates of the Writs of Election.

Date of Writ.	Names of Members.
1st March 1820 - - -	George Chetwynde and Benjamin Benyon, Esqrs.
3d June 1826 - - - -	Richard Ironmonger and Ralph Benson, Esqrs.
7th December 1826; single election	Thomas Wentworth Beaumont, Esq. in the room of Richard Ironmonger, deceased.
24th July 1830 - - -	Thomas Gisborne and John Campbell.
23d April 1831 - - -	John Campbell and Thomas Gisborne, Esqrs.
3d December 1832 - - -	William Fawkener Chetwynde and Rees Howell Gronow, Esqrs.
30th December 1834 - -	Francis Lyttelton Holyoake Goodriche, of Studley Castle, Warwickshire, Esq. and William Fawkener Chetwynde, of Brockton Hall, Staffordshire, Esq.

William White was called in, and having been sworn, was Examined as follows: *William White.*

Mr. *Austin.*] DID you formerly keep the Bedford Hotel in Covent-garden, until the year 1826?—I did.

Had you been acquainted with Mr. Spooner of Birmingham, the banker, at that time?—I was, for years.

Did you go to Stafford in the year 1826 on behalf of Mr. Spooner?—I did.

Was Mr. Spooner a candidate at that election?—He was.

Who was the other candidate?—Mr. Beaumont.

At what time did you go to Stafford?—I cannot say exactly the very day.

Do you remember when the election took place?—Yes.

When was that?—It was the 5th of December 1826.

Was that a general election?—I do not recollect.

Do you recollect Mr. Ironmonger having been the member for Stafford?—No.

There were but two candidates, were there?—Yes.

And there was only one person elected?—Yes.

How long had you been at Stafford before the election took place?—About four or five days.

Did you anticipate a contest when you went there?—Certainly not.

Was there any person in the field besides Mr. Spooner at that time?—Not when Mr. Spooner went there.

How soon did Mr. Beaumont come into the field?—In a few days after; at the time the writ came down.

By a Lord.] After the writ came down?—With it, I believe.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you know whether it was then determined to take any steps, and what, upon Mr. Beaumont's part?—Not exactly then, but a very few days after, upon the first day of the poll.

What steps was it determined to take upon the first day of the poll?—Finding that Mr. Beaumont was bribing, the friends of Mr. Spooner considered that he would have no chance unless he did the same as Mr. Beaumont, that is, to bribe.

That was the first day of the poll?—The first day of the poll, in the afternoon.

It was then determined to bribe?—It was.

William White.

13 July 1836.

Had any treating been going on before?—Yes; several of the houses were open.

How long had they been open?—Several days before.

Was the treating extensive?—Very much so.

Have you a list of the houses in which the treating took place?—Yes.

There were thirty-one of them, were there?—As near as can be.

Will you produce it? [*The Witness produced the same.*]

Was this a document that you made at the time?—It was given to me. All those were the houses that I was to look after.

Who gave you this?—It was either Mr. Whale, Mr. Finch, or Mr. Sidney.

Will you deliver in that list? [*The Witness delivered in the same, which is as follows:*]

High Street.	East Gate.
Bear.	Vine.
Draper's.	Rose and Crown.
Morgan's.	Cock.
Posts.	White Hart.
Maid's Head (Pool's).	Lord Nelson.
Dolphin.	Unicorn.
Three Tons.	Cow and Hare.
Royal Oak.	Crispin.
Wheatsheaf.	Broad Eye.
White Horse.	Jolly Crafts.
Elephant and Castle.	Queen's Head.
Trumpet.	Crown and Anchor.
Crown and Cushion.	Barleymow.
King's Head.	
Feathers.	
Waggon and Horses.	
Union.	
Red Lion.	
Tiger.	

Did you accordingly look after those houses?—I did.

Did you pay them?—I did.

Were they open from morning till night?—They were.

Were they drinking?—Yes.

Do you remember whether there was a considerable drunkenness prevailing in consequence of those houses being opened?—Late at night there was a good deal of it. I endeavoured to prevent it as much as I could, to save Mr. Spooner's pocket; that was the purpose for which I went down, and for which Mr. Spooner solicited me to go; to superintend the houses; having been in the line he thought I might be able to detect them.

You say it was determined to bribe, in consequence of the discovery with respect to Mr. Beaumont; was any money produced?—Yes.

Where?—To me, at the inn where I was at.

How much?—The first I received was 1,000*l.*; the next day was another 1000*l.*

What inn were you at?—At the Vine.

Who paid the money to the voters?—I did.

Did they bring tickets?—They did.

After they had polled?—After they had polled; I was not to pay till they had polled.

And then you paid the bearers of the tickets?—Yes.

Have you got a list of the names of the persons you paid?—I have.

Will you produce it? [*The Witness produced the same.*]

Did you make that out yourself?—Yes; I scribbled it down at the time.

Have you any further lists of this sort?—Yes. [*Producing the same.*] This is another list of money paid to the masters, and the public-houses, and to different people. The masters received a great deal, and paid to the men, I suppose.

Will you deliver in those lists? [*The same were delivered in, and are as follow:*]

£800.

First Day.

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No.				
	Mr. Dibb to Mr. Wm Sidney's Acct	£20	0	0
	Crutchly - Do.	10	0	0
1.	Wm Booth	7	17	6
2.	John Bates	7	17	6
3.	Wm Lloyd	9	0	0
	Chas Clewlow	7	17	6
	Chas Machin	9	0	0
	James Meeson	10	0	0
	John Meeson, son of James	10	0	0
	John Orton	2	0	0
	Richard How	10	0	0
	~~Thos Finlow, son of Wm~~	~~10~~	~~0~~	~~0~~
	Thomas Dudley	7	17	6
	Philip Dale	7	17	6
	Chas Dudley, son of John	7	17	6
	Thos Hudson	8	0	0
	Ephm Emberton	10	0	0
	Thos Fenlow, senr	7	17	6
	Wm Fenlow	7	17	6
	Thos Phenx Fallows	7	17	6
	Geo. Fellows	8	0	0
	Nicholas Hodson	7	17	6
	Henry Start	10	0	0
	John Stokes	10	0	0
	John Kenderdine	10	0	0
	Thos Frith, son of James	10	0	0
	Thos Dickinson	7	17	6
	John Finney	7	17	6
	John Tonks	2	2	6
	Chas Smith	2	2	6
	John Grist	7	17	6
	Saml Fullows, junr	7	17	6
	Josph Fullows, junr	7	17	6
	John Simpson	10	0	0
	~~Geo. Halden~~ ×	~~10~~	~~0~~	~~0~~
	John Hodson	10	0	0
	Wm Ellis	10	0	0
	Wm Moreton	10	0	0
	John Godwin, Gale Road	8	0	0

Second Day.

~~John Goodall~~	~~10~~	~~0~~	~~0~~
John Lloyd	10	0	0
John James	10	0	0
Thos Heath	10	0	0
Wm Heath	10	0	0
John Heath	10	0	0
Richd Mountford	10	0	0
Chas Wiltshaw	10	0	0
Thos Wood	10	0	0
Edwd Eldershaw	7	17	6
Mr. Brassington	18	12	6
Thos Harding	8	0	0
John Gotheridge	10	0	0
Edwd Holmes	10	0	0
Thos Greennoff	5	0	0
Wm Greensmith	10	0	0
Richd Harvey	10	0	0
Lewis Hall	10	0	0
Wm Adams	7	17	6
Thos Harvey	10	0	0
Chas Machin, son of Chas	10	0	0
Geo. Wood	10	0	0
Val. Harvey	10	0	0
Wm Brown	10	0	0
John Fowler	10	0	0
Josph Stancled Fowler	10	0	0
Wm Finlow, junr	10	0	0
Saml Beech	7	17	6
Chas Ilssley	7	17	6
Thos Ilssley	7	17	6

(*continued.*)

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Wm Gilbert	4 men	31 10 0	~~to pay in~~ 22
Mr. Wm Kenerden	3 do.	23 12 6	
Mrs. Meeson	14 do.	110 5 0	~~Paid Kirk £200.~~
~~Mr. Shall Cross~~	~~50—10—0~~		
Ward July Croft	20	157 10 0	~~Mr. Wm Meeson.~~
Mr. Geo. Forneyhough	3	23 12 6	
Mr. Bressington, Wheat Sheaf	3	23 12 6	
Mr. R. Mumford	6	47 5 0	
Mr. Crutchley, Union	2	15 15 0	
Do. for Mr. Ash	1	7 17 6	
Mr. James Cromwell	7	55 2 6	
Mr. Follors	6	47 5 0	
Mr. Wm Smith	21	165 7 6	
Mr. Clewley, 3 Tons	36	130 0 0	
Mrs. Sutherne	3	23 12 6	
~~Eph~~ Embache			

Mr. Morris, Landlord of the Vine Inn, a prime Man; you may trust him.
~~Mason~~
Mr. Wm Finch kept back 200 *l.* from the last 1,000 *l.*

Cash paid to me by Mr. Finch.

First	£1,000	£.2,000
Second	1,000	
Cash returned to me by Mr. Gilbert	22	
	2,022	

This is the way I have expend

Mrs. Finch	£300		
Mr. Sidney	200		
Do	20		
Do. for Mr. Crutchley	10		
Do. for one ticket	10		
Masters - Cash	882	7	6
Men - - Do.	567	7	6
Paid the Band	13	0	0
Constables bill	4	10	0
Cash paid to Mr. Ingleby	14	15	0

How much did you pay yourself?—I paid the masters 882 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d.*, and I paid to the men 567 *l.* 7 *s.* 6 *d.*, and to the public-houses 2,721 *l.* 7 *s.* 9 *d.*; making altogether 4,171 *l.* 2 *s.* 9 *d.*

Was that the whole disbursement of the election?—All that I had to do with.

What was the money advanced to the masters for?—I imagine to pay the men that had votes.

Did you give them instructions, or did you understand that it was to be so?—I understood it was for that purpose, after they had polled; it was mentioned in those papers.

Had there been a canvass before you went down?—Mr. Spooner had canvassed.

Did you learn what the state of the canvass was before Mr. Beaumont went down?—They had promised him; almost the whole town.

Mr. *Whateley.*] You do not know that?—I did not go round; that was as I understood it.

Mr. *Austin.*] Were you present when the canvass books were made up?—No; I was by myself. I never went to the committee, nor knew nothing about the committee. I am satisfied in my own mind that Mr. Spooner knew nothing about bribery at that time.

The arrangement about the 2,000 *l.* was not made by Mr. Spooner?—No; by those three gentlemen, Mr. Whale, Mr. Finch, and Mr. Sidney.

By a Lord] Who gave you the 2,000 *l.*?—I think it was Mr. Whale.

In what form did he give it you?—In bank notes.

Mr. *Austin.*] Mr. Spooner was ultimately defeated, was he not?—He was.

You say that you heard that Mr. Beaumont was bribing; was the bribing on the

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the part of Mr. Beaumont notorious at that time?—Very much; the voters were dissatisfied with what I gave, and I gave a great deal.

Why were the sums so large; was there any reason for paying so large sums?—Because the others were bribing. I do not know how that was; the tickets were brought to me, and they always grumbled when they came; they said the others were giving more.

By a Lord.] What did you give?—In some instances 10*l.*; the lowest was 5*l.*

Mr. *Austin.*] At what time did Mr. Spooner retire from the contest?—In the afternoon of the second day.

By a Lord.] Did Mr. Spooner or any of his friends petition against the return of Mr. Beaumont?—I believe not.

Mr. *Austin.*] Do you know whether there was any agreement about a petition?—Not to my knowledge.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

If there was any agreement it was not made with you?—No.

Is Mr. Spooner alive and in good health?—He is now.

When did you see him last?—About five minutes ago.

In the lobby of the House here?—Yes.

In attendance?—I imagine the same as myself.

You were a stranger to the town of Stafford before you went down upon this occasion?—I never was there before.

Perhaps never there since?—No.

You were not then acquainted with any of the inhabitants of the place?—None of them.

Nor did you attend the poll?—Certainly not.

Where did you get those papers from that you have produced?—I wrote them at the time.

Have you kept them ever since?—I have; I did not know that I had them till I was summoned.

You had not them from the reform committee, of which Mr. Parkes is a member?—I did not know he was a member of it; I do not belong to any committee of that sort.

When did Mr. Beaumont come down?—The day the writ came down; about four or five days after Mr. Spooner got there.

He came down on the very day the election was proclaimed?—I should imagine it was.

The election would begin four or five days afterwards?—It began directly he came.

Then he did not come down with the writ, because when the writ comes down the election is proclaimed in the borough, and it is to be not less than four nor more than eight days after the proclamation of the writ?—I do not understand it.

You mean that he came down just before the election began?—Yes; he was not expected, nor did Mr. Spooner expect any opposition.

What has become of Mr. Whale and Mr. Sidney, and other gentlemen whose names you mentioned?—I do not know; I have never seen them since.

Was Mr. Parkes the agent there for Mr. Spooner?—Mr. Engleby was the agent for Mr. Spooner.

Was Mr. Joseph Parkes there as the agent for Mr. Spooner?—I could not swear that he was an agent.

Was he there?—I do not recollect seeing him there.

Am I to understand that you have kept all those papers in your possession ever since?—I have. I do not think I had seen them till I received their lordships' summons to come and produce any papers that I might have got, and then I looked among some old papers, and I found these. Mr. Engleby had all my vouchers which I wrote for him.

Mr. Clement Engleby, the attorney of Birmingham?—Yes.

Is he here?—Not to my knowledge; I should not know him if I was to see him.

Do you know who sent Mr. Engleby?—No.

By a Lord.] Are we to understand that Mr. Spooner went down to this election, and that up to the first day of polling he expected to be able to carry his election without any payment whatever, and that then Mr. Beaumont came

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down, and having bribed largely, Mr. Spooner's friends thought it necessary to do the same?—Exactly so; they told me he had no chance unless he did bribe.

But until Mr. Beaumont came there with his heavy bribes, there was every expectation that Mr. Spooner would carry his election without any payment?—Certainly.

Till that took place were there any threats on the part of the voters that they would not vote unless money were given them; or did their demands begin after Mr. Beaumont arrived?—After.

Before Mr. Beaumont arrived there was no other candidate than Mr. Spooner?—Just so.

These gentlemen that thought it necessary to advance bribes, were they gentlemen of Stafford or of Birmingham?—I do not know.

Was Mr. Whale a Stafford man?—I think he was a Birmingham man; I do not know where either of them live.

There had been a good deal of treating before?—Yes; there were a great many houses open.

How much did you pay on account of treating, independently of bribes?—I cannot exactly say; the treating was about 2,700*l.* altogether; for the treating and Mr. Spooner's committee.

Did you hear of 5*s.* or 10*s.* tickets given to the burgess's wives?—Never.

There was a great scene of drunkenness?—A good deal in the evening.

The houses were open all day?—All day.

And all night too?—To a late hour at night. I was to attend the houses to see that there was not drunkenness, but it was beyond my art.

Do you mean to say that the whole 2,700*l.* were expended in treating?—In treating, and the house where Mr. Spooner's committee was.

Would not 2,700*l.* make all Stafford drunk for many days?—I do not know how strict they might be in making out their bills.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *Charles Flint.*

Mr. *Charles Flint* was called in, and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Austin.*] DO you recollect the election of 1826?—I do.

That was a bye election, was not it?—It was an election occasioned by the death of Mr. Ironmonger.

Do you remember Mr. Beaumont coming down?—I do.

Were you engaged for Mr. Beaumont?—I acted as his professional agent.

On what day did he come down?—I cannot recollect.

Have you any accounts or papers relative to that election?—I have not.

Were there any?—I dare say there were, but I dare say I returned them to Mr. Talton, not Mr. Edward Talton.

But one *ejusdem generis*?—I do not know that.

You say you were the professional agent; where was Mr. Beaumont's committee?—Mr. Beaumont stayed at the Swan.

Did his friends go to the Swan?—They did.

Did you go to the Swan with his friends?—I was at the Swan.

Was not that in fact the committee?—I must give the same answer as the others; there are no committees in Stafford.

Did not the gentlemen who met there manage the election? No; the tradesmen might go and meet there, but the management of the election they had very little to do with.

Was not the election managed in that inn?—No doubt about it.

The other place was the Vine?—I do not recollect; I think Mr. Spooner was at the George.

Do you remember when Mr. Beaumont first came down?—I do.

Was there any discussion about the mode of conducting the election?—Not to my knowledge.

To whom were the money arrangements left?—That I cannot say.

Did you never know?—I did not.

Do you know anything about the expenditure of the money?—Not of my legal knowledge; I had nothing to do with money matters.

Do you know who did expend the money?—Certainly not, of my own knowledge; I did not pay any myself, nor see any paid.

Were

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Were you present at any discussion about the payment of money?—I do not recollect that I was.

Just try and recollect?—It is now so long ago I cannot speak positively, but I do not believe I was.

Just try and and recollect again whether Mr. Beaumont had come in before the writ issued or not?—That I cannot say.

Did he not come down suddenly; do you know whether he came down before the writ?—No, I do not; I do not know the date at all.

You remember that Mr. Spooner had been in the town some time before?—Yes, certainly.

And there was no appearance of an opposition till Mr. Beaumont came down?—Sir William Wynne had also been down, and there was an appearance of opposition.

He was gone again?—After canvassing the town, and the town expecting he would come down as a candidate, he declined.

That was weeks before the election?—Yes.

There was no appearance of opposition till Mr. Beaumont came down?—I do not think there was.

Do you know how much money Mr. Beaumont spent about the election?—I do not.

Do you know the sums spent about the election?—No, I do not; there was treating at the election, no doubt.

By whom?—By both Mr. Spooner and Mr. Beaumont.

Did you observe Mr. Beaumont treating?—I could not fail to see treating, because it was part of my duty to go round canvassing with Mr. Beaumont.

There was extensive treating?—There was treating.

Extensive treating?—That I cannot speak to; the freemen were in the houses, and were drinking.

You were in most of the houses of the town?—Yes, I think so.

Did you hear the report of the bribery that was going on the first day?—Yes; it was reported that there was bribery going on, no doubt.

And bribery by Mr. Beaumont?—Yes.

This report, I suppose, did not astonish you; you were not surprised at hearing that bribery was going on by Mr. Beaumont?—I heard the report.

And you were not surprised at it?—I can only say I heard the report, and that I had nothing to do with the bribery in any other way.

Perhaps you heard that bribery was going on on both sides?—I did.

Can you inform us who conducted the election on the part of Mr. Beaumont in the way of money; who would be likely to give the House an account of the bribery?—I believe William Batty was connected with the election; he has been summoned here.

The William Batty who was here some time ago?—Yes, and sent back.

Do you believe that he was concerned with the money in Mr. Beaumont's election?—I do.

I mean in distributing the bribes?—He was an active agent for Mr. Beaumont.

In paying the money?—As I stated I have no knowledge of money; it is very likely.

Have you ever talked to him about it?—About Mr. Beaumont's bribery? It is very likely I have; most likely.

Who else besides Batty?—I cannot recollect at this moment.

You cannot inform us of anybody else who would be likely to give the intelligence?—I cannot recollect at this moment.

Do you know how much the whole election of Mr. Beaumont cost?—I do not.

You say it was notorious that bribery was going on on both sides; you have heard the price that was given for votes on the part of Mr. Spooner; did you hear what was given on the other side?—I have no doubt I did.

Was it notorious?—It was generally known that each party were bribing on that occasion.

Did you ever happen to see any voters with bank-notes in their hats?—I do not recollect that.

Or with tickets in their hats?—No.

Did you see any with money in their hands at the poll or in the street?—I do not recollect it.

You say it was notorious they were bribing, and you have no doubt you heard

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the price?—It was generally known in the town that each party were giving money.

Was it also generally known that the price was greater towards the close of the poll?—I cannot state to my own knowledge what the price was; if I had information from others I would state it.

The bribery was notorious?—Yes, it was; it was generally known that they were paying money for each of the candidates.

You say you have no doubt you talked to Batty about this; try and recollect whether you did not talk to him on both days of the election about this?—No, I do not believe I did.

Try and recollect whether you did or not?—I think I did not.

Will you undertake to say you did not converse with Batty about the money paid for bribes on the two days of the election?—I cannot undertake to say at this distance of time; I cannot undertake to speak either way.

Or that you did not converse with him about the money to be given on the second day?—Do you mean in giving directions?

Will you undertake to say that you did not converse with him upon the subject?—I think I did not.

Do you think you were informed of the sums that were paid?—Not to the best of my recollection; my duties were quite of a different nature; I had the keeping of the canvass book, and so on; at this distance of time it is impossible for me to give a different answer.

You cannot give a more positive answer?—No, I cannot.

Will you undertake to say you had not frequent communications with Batty; I mean about expending money in bribery?—I cannot; I donot believe that I had.

Will you undertake to swear you had not?—I cannot.

Might not your knowledge that bribery was going on at the election be a knowledge derived immediately from a conversation with the agents?—My knowledge of the bribery at the election was, that it was generally understood in the town.

Might it not be derived from the particular parties who were parties engaged in it?—It might be, but I believe it was not.

Do you know when the arrangement was made to bribe on the part of Mr. Beaumont?—I do not.

Do you know at what time his canvass had been completed?—I cannot state that; that is a thing I cannot remember.

You were canvassing with him?—Yes.

When was it begun?—It was begun immediately on his arrival.

How long before the poll was it closed?—That I cannot say.

Was it within three days?—I do not know; he commenced immediately on his canvass, as is usual.

Were you acquainted at that time with the nature of Mr. Spooner's canvass?—No; I had nothing to do with Mr. Spooner in any way.

Did you send for Mr. Beaumont to come down?—I went up to London to solicit Sir John Campbell to come again, and he referred me to Mr. Beaumont, and I went to Mr. Beaumont, and Mr. Beaumont came down.

At whose request did you go to London for a candidate?—I went at the request of the burgesses, who the same year had voted for Sir John Campbell, and they promised him their general support if he would come down. Mr. Campbell declined at that time to come down again, and referred me to Mr. Beaumont. The result was, that Mr. Beaumont came down, and I did the same for him.

Had you any conversation with Mr. Beaumont before you came down?—I do not believe I had.

Were there no inquiries as to what the expense would be?—No, I believe not; Mr. Beaumont came down from the lobby of the House of Commons to Stafford.

Did he bring down any money with him?—That I do not know; I had not the charge of anything relating to money.

Do you know where he banked at Stafford?—That I do not know.

Had he a banking account there?—That I cannot tell; I had nothing to do with money in any way.

Did you state that he was supported by those who had been voters for Mr. Campbell?—Yes.

What

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What politics were they of?—They were the working class of the town, who generally supported him the election preceding.

Were they of no politics at all?—They generally assisted him; from local circumstances that existed at the time in the town, he was very popular.

Did you go up to act for any particular party?—I went up to act for those persons who promised me their support.

Had Mr. Campbell failed on the previous occasion?—Yes, he failed, but unconnected with money arrangements.

He was not returned?—No; he was beaten by the split votes; the minority of actual voters between him and the other candidate was very small; I think not above seven.

What money passed through your hands?—I believe none passed through my hands.

With reference to the election of Mr. Beaumont, before or after the election?—After the election I think I assisted with information to regulate the amount of the publicans' bills; they were greatly overcharged.

Did any money pass through your hands?—No, I do not recollect that there did.

As you assisted to regulate the amount of the publicans' bills, can you inform their lordships of the amount of those bills?—I cannot.

Were they hundreds or thousands?—I cannot say.

Were they 1000*l.*?—I cannot state.

Two thousand pounds?—I cannot say; I should state that with great pleasure if I could recollect; I know they were grossly overcharged; there were great deductions.

You do not recollect whether it was hundreds or thousands?—No, I cannot.

In whose hands did you see the publicans bills?—I believe that Mr. Tarleton had the arrangement as to the publicans' bills.

Was there any solicitor from London at that election?—Yes.

Who was that?—Mr. Smart.

What is his Christian name, and where does he live?—Mr. John Smart; I believe he lives in Lincoln's Inn.

Have you seen him since you have been in London?—I called upon him.

You have seen him since you have been in London this time?—I saw him about five weeks ago.

Did you see the accounts there?—No.

Had you any conversation about this election?—I went to him to ask him whether Mr. Beaumont was summoned.

The accounts, you say, you did not see?—No, I did not.

Nor any papers?—No; I never mentioned them nor inquired after them.

Were you acquainted with the constituency at that time?—I was.

Did you hear Mr. Beaumont address the electors from the windows at Stafford?—Several times.

Did you hear him state any thing to the electors in public with respect to the means by which that election was to be had?—No; I have not the slightest impression of anything of the kind.

He did not say he would not bribe, or did not intend to give money?—I have no recollection that he stated anything with regard to bribery.

Neither the one way nor the other?—No; neither the one way nor the other.

What was Mr. Beaumont's majority, do you recollect?—I do not know.

It was a considerable majority, was not it?—I really do not know; I have not the poll-book.

It was a considerable majority?—Yes, I think it was.

Had he been known well in the town before?—No, I think not.

He came down two or three days only before the election?—Yes; he came down on the recommendation of Sir John Campbell.

But he got this large majority?—Yes; he came on his interest, and he had it.

From your knowledge of the constituency at the time, I will ask you whether, in your belief, Mr. Beaumont could have got in without resorting to bribery?—I do not believe he would at that moment.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Was it known in Stafford that Sir John Campbell had recommended Mr. Beaumont?—It was.

You say at that moment, from local circumstances, Sir John Campbell was popular in Stafford?—Very much so.

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What were those circumstances?—There were disputes between the freemen and the corporation of the borough of Stafford, and the general body of freemen were opposed to the proceedings of that corporation; Sir John Campbell espoused their cause; he was their counsel; he acted in several causes that were brought; and in that way, and for that reason, was very popular.

Did he afterwards become unpopular in Stafford?—Very much so.

In the year 1831 was he popular or unpopular?—In the year 1831 he was unpopular; I speak to that from notoriety, for I was not present at the election.

Were you present at the election of 1826?—I was; I acted as Sir John Campbell's professional agent.

Was there any money at that time given for votes?—Not one farthing; nor expected.

By a Lord.] Do you speak confidently to that?—Most confidently; not in the shape of bribery.

Mr. *Whateley.*] In what way was anything given?—I believe Sir John Campbell gave a ticket a week or a fortnight before the election.

The kind of tickets we have heard of distributed indiscriminately, without the expectation of a vote?—Certainly, with no reference to a vote.

Was the first election that you speak of in 1826 a general election?—Yes; the candidates were Mr. Ironmonger, Mr. Benson, and Mr. Campbell.

Had Mr. Ironmonger or Mr. Benson been returned for Stafford before that time?—I believe Mr. Benson had been returned before.

Supposing Mr. Campbell had stood again in 1826, do you think he would have stood under very favourable circumstances, with a good chance of being returned?—My opinion is, as matter of opinion, if he had come back in 1826, when I went for him, he would have been returned.

By a Lord.] Without paying money?—Yes, they were very much hurt at his defeat in 1826; it arose from the management of the election as to the split votes, and the men were most anxious to return him.

Mr. *Whateley.*] You were asked of what politics the persons who returned Sir John Campbell were, and your answer was, that it was from local circumstances; are you of opinion there is a strong political feeling now in Stafford?—Yes, I have no doubt of that.

That it has grown up since the period you speak of in 1826?—Yes.

I do not know whether you saw Mr. Joseph Parkes at that second election in 1826?—I cannot recollect whether I did or not, but it was generally known in Stafford that he was there; I cannot recollect that I saw him personally there.

For whom did he act?—For Mr. Spooner.

Assisting him in his election?—Certainly, as his friend.

How long was it before the election that Sir William Wynne came down?—Some time; it might be a month or two.

By a Lord.] Was it after Mr. Spooner had canvassed the borough, or before?—I believe Sir William Wynne came before Mr. Spooner; but I am not quite certain.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Was a vacancy existing for some time before that occurred?—A considerable time.

It was known that Mr. Ironmonger was in ill health a considerable time?—I believe Mr. Ironmonger died a considerable time before the writ issued.

Was it known in Stafford that you acted as a friend for Mr. Beaumont?—Certainly.

At that time were you professionally engaged for the freemen in their dispute with the corporation?—I was.

Did that make you acquainted with them, and give you a considerable degree of influence with them?—Certainly; I was intimately acquainted with them.

Has there been a considerable change in Stafford between the year 1826 and the year 1836?—There has.

Are there not a number of voters at present who were not voters then and are now?—Certainly.

I do not wish you to go into particulars, which may be proved hereafter; but can you tell me how many persons have been changed ever since the year 1832 down to the year 1836?—Five hundred and twenty-seven.

Taking into consideration those who were on the register in 1832 and were not in 1836, and those in 1836 and not in 1832, they would amount to that number?—Yes.

By

By a Lord.] Do you mean that are on the last register, and that were not on the register in 1826?—No; I mean that of those on the register in 1832 there have been removals and changes in the constituency of 247 or 248, and that there have been additional and new freemen registered at the last registration that were not on the register of 1832, of 115 or 116, making an altered constituency to that extent.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Have you, from a suggestion of a noble Lord, made out a table of the difference in the constituency of 1832 and of 1836?—I have.

Mr. *Whateley* stated that he would put in that table on a future occasion.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

You have been asked with respect to the first election of 1826; you say there was no money in the shape of bribery; in what shape was there money?—There was no money, except a ticket, I believe; only one ticket.

To whom was that given?—You misunderstand me. I mean one ticket given indiscriminately.

To what amount?—That I cannot state; either 5*s.* or 10*s.*

Given to the whole body of burgesses?—Given indiscriminately to any persons who applied for it.

Were there houses open?—There was treating, no doubt.

You are speaking of Mr. Campbell's election?—Yes. I should state that Mr. Campbell boldly declared from the windows that he would not give a farthing of money to any one for his election.

And he lost the election?—He had 406 polled for him, and he had only lost from their holding off the split votes for Mr. Benson.

What were Mr. Benson's numbers, on the whole?—I cannot state without reference; there were split votes of course; Mr. Ironmonger had 609, Mr. Benson had 487, Mr. Campbell had 406.

By a Lord.] Have you seen Mr. Beaumont since you came to town?—I have not.

Do you know whether he is in town?—I cannot say.

Do you know what were the expenses of the previous election?—I cannot say.

There was treating, and there were tickets given?—Yes.

Do you know to what extent treating was given, and in what number?—No.

With respect to the other election in 1826, how long had Mr. Spooner been in the town canvassing before the election?—Some time; he and his friends had been canvassing, making interest.

Some time before you came up to town?—Yes.

You came up for Mr. Campbell, and he referred you to Mr. Beaumont?—Yes.

Where did you see Mr. Beaumont; you said something about the lobby of the House of Commons?—I do not believe I saw Mr. Beaumont personally myself, but I had a communication that he would leave London for Stafford at such a time in the evening, and I was desired to meet him there, and I did so.

Do you recollect on what day of the month you communicated with him?—I do not.

You had a communication from Mr. Beaumont that he would go down that day or the next day?—The communication came to me the same day that he went.

Did you go down to meet him?—I did.

Were you there before him?—I believe I was there about half an hour or an hour before him.

How soon after his arrival did you see him?—I saw him immediately upon his arrival.

Did he come to your house, or did you go to the house where he put up?—I went to the Swan.

Did you canvass for him?—I assisted him.

Was anything said about money in that canvass?—I do not believe there was.

Are you sure there was not?—I do not believe there was any thing of the sort.

Did you know anything of the state of Mr. Spooner's canvass?—I did not.

Did you canvass all the voters?—I believe we did.

Did you hear anything of promises having been given to Mr. Spooner?—There is no doubt we must have heard that Mr. Spooner had obtained promises.

Mr. *Charles Flint.*

13 July 1836.

Did you use any arguments to induce those who had promised Mr. Spooner to vote for Mr. Beaumont?—No; I cannot recollect anything of the kind.

When a person told you in the course of your canvass that he had promised Mr. Spooner, no attempts were made to move him to vote for Mr. Beaumont?—I have no recollection of any freemen telling us they had promised Mr. Spooner on the canvass.

What was the sort of answer given?—It is impossible for me to state at this distance of time.

Did they hold out any hope to Mr. Beaumont that they would vote for him?—Certainly; he had a great many promises.

Without the promises of remuneration?—I do not recollect anything of the kind. Mr. Beaumont was popular among the working men, coming on Mr. Campbell's recommendation.

Only among the working men?—Of course there would be exceptions on their part.

When did you first hear of bribery?—I have no doubt I heard of it on the first day's poll.

You were asked whether you were surprised when you heard there was bribery on the part of Mr. Beaumont?—I do not recollect anything passing upon that subject; I cannot give an answer to that question.

Cannot you tell me whether you were very much astonished or not on hearing that Mr. Beaumont was giving bribes?—I cannot.

Mr. Beaumont came down at your invitation?—He did.

Did you suppose he would use bribery for the purpose of being elected?—I have no reason to suppose anything of the kind from what he said.

You were asked whether, from what you knew at that time, you believed bribery was made use of during elections at Stafford?—I know it was not used at the former election for Mr. Campbell, and that was all I have had experience of.

Did not Mr. Ironmonger bribe on the former occasion?—I believe he did not bribe a single voter in 1826.

At the previous election?—I do not know; I had nothing to do with any election before 1826.

Were you not surprised to hear that your candidate, Mr. Beaumont, was bribing?—I do not remember any conversation I had upon the subject at this distance of time, or whether I had any.

You cannot say whether you were surprised?—I cannot state either way.

Can you say you were not surprised?—I cannot.

Can you say that you were surprised?—I cannot.

Did you hear any of Mr. Beaumont's addresses?—I did.

Did you hear his last address at the election?—I have no doubt I did.

Did you hear him say anything about unconstitutional means?—I have not the slightest recollection of the fact.

Can you undertake to say he did not say anything on that subject?—I believe he did not.

You mean to say, on your oath, that you believe he did not say he had obtained his election by unconstitutional means?—I do not recollect anything of the kind.

Did you not know that he had gained his election by unconstitutional means?—I knew he had bribed; it was generally known in Stafford that money was paid for voting.

You knew that of your own knowledge?—I knew it as others knew it.

How was it you knew it of your own knowledge?—In a town like Stafford it is impossible any bribery can take place without its being known to many people, and most people in Stafford, and I knew it in that way.

You say you knew it of your own knowledge; what were the means by which you knew it of your own knowledge; what was the foundation of that knowledge?—I do not recollect that I have stated that I knew it of my own knowledge. I knew it from common report.

Did you know it only from common report?—I do not know that I knew it in any other way; I neither promised money for voting, nor saw any paid; I do not know that I could know it in any other way.

Only say whether you did or did not know it; you said just now that you knew

knew it of your own knowledge?—I do not know that I said I knew it of my own knowledge; I did not correctly understand the question, if I said that. Mr. *Charles Flint.*

13 July 1836.

You did not know it of your own knowledge?—I knew it in the way I have stated, but no otherwise.

You say no money passed through your hands?—No.

Some money passed through your hands, no doubt?—I was paid afterwards.

How much?—I was paid 75*l.*

Is that all the money you received?—I believe it is.

Is that all you received?—I believe it is.

Do not you know what amount you had in the whole?—I have not the slightest idea that I received more than 75*l.*

That covered the whole expense of coming up to town, and so on?—I believe it did.

You must know whether it did or not?—Your lordship will allow a little qualification for ten years; I do not believe I received one farthing more than 75*l.* for any purpose.

And that no other sum went through your hands?—No.

Before you applied to Mr. Beaumont you applied to Sir John Campbell?—I did.

You stated to him your belief that if he would go down he would be returned?—I did.

Did you state to him your belief that if he came down he would be returned without any bribery?—I did.

And it was your belief that he would be so returned?—It was, most sincerely; I had a knowledge of Mr. Ironmonger in 1826, but not otherwise.

You are the solicitor conducting the defence of the corporation against this Bill, are you not?—I am.

You are the town clerk of Stafford?—I am.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *Richard Spooner*, Esquire, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Rushton.*] I BELIEVE you are a banker at Birmingham?—I am; I am resident in Worcestershire. *R. Spooner*, Esq.

You are resident at Brickfield House, near Worcester?—Yes.

Were you a candidate for the representation of the borough of Stafford in the year 1826?—I was.

I believe several persons in the vicinity desired to have a mercantile man as the representative for that borough?—Several gentlemen of the borough of Stafford did.

Were you applied to on that occasion?—I was.

Was there a subscription raised in Birmingham for defraying the expenses of the election?—There was; I declined spending any money, and a subscription was raised.

Are you aware of the amount of it?—As near as I recollect, somewhat short of 3,000*l.*; I have not any account; I speak from recollection.

When did you go to Stafford first respecting that election?—It must have been sometime in the month of August 1826, almost immediately after the general election. Mr. Ironmonger died, and on that election I was applied to.

The general election was in the month of June?—Yes, he died about a month afterwards; I think it was in August, or thereabouts.

Was there any other candidate for the borough at that time?—A Mr. Nanny Wynne was canvassing for Sir William Wynne, his brother.

Was he there when you went?—Yes; the day I went he had been there, and had left the town, I think, the day before I went.

By a *Lord.*] Had he given up his canvass?—No; but he had canvassed the town, and had retired.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Did you institute a canvass in the borough?—I did.

Was that general and extensive?—I believe I canvassed every voter.

All classes?—Every voter, I believe.

Did you obtain numerous promises of support?—Four out of five.

How long did you stay at Stafford on that occasion?—I really do not recollect; some days; but I was there several times.

R. Spooner, Esq.

13 July 1836.

Did you continue to possess the promises of the majority of electors, four out of five, till the eve of the election?—Till the very day before the election.

As well the master manufacturers as the workmen?—Just so.

And shopkeepers?—Yes, of all classes.

Up to the period of the election you were not threatened with any vigorous opposition?—No, none at all.

When did Sir William Wynne withdraw?—I think about a week before the election, as far as my recollection serves me; I merely speak from recollection; it might be longer.

To all appearance, I understand you, a week before the election you were left without any effective opponent in the field?—Without any opponent.

You entertained no doubt of your success?—Not the slightest.

Do you recollect a deputation going up to London about that time?—I remember being informed of it.

Do you remember another candidate coming into the field?—Yes.

Mr. Beaumont?—Yes.

When did he arrive in Stafford?—I think on the Friday before the election.

The election being on the Tuesday?—On the following Wednesday, I think, but I have no memorandum; I merely speak from recollection.

Had you previously resolved to have nothing to do with bribery at that election?—Undoubtedly; I had no idea of bribery.

Did you continue to entertain the opinion as to your return, which you have already expressed, after Mr. Beaumont's arrival?—I had no doubt of my return till the beginning of the second day's poll.

Was any communication made to you then as to the payment of voters?—Not a direct communication made to me as to the payment of voters.

What was the result of the first day's poll?—I was nine in the minority on the first day's poll.

Were you informed during the first day's poll that bribery had commenced?—I was informed that a great many of my promises had gone on the other side, and that it was supposed that bribery had commenced.

What was the result of the second day's poll?—Very early in the morning I perceived that there were men who had promised me were voting the other way, and I retired in the middle of the day.

Those who had promised you were voting for Mr. Beaumont?—Yes.

Did this apply to the masters as well as the men?—No; I think chiefly amongst the men. Those who had promised me that morning when I went round, not ten minutes before I had gone to the hustings, came to the hustings, and laughed in my face, and voted against me.

Did you see anything in the possession of those men which might account for the change?—No.

Did you see at that election voters with bank-notes in their hats?—I did not myself.

Did you see them with any notes?—I did not.

Was there extensive treating during those days of the election?—Certainly.

Much drunkenness?—A great deal.

Any riot?—Very considerable riot, so much so that the yeomanry were sent for.

Did you understand on the second day that the expenses incident to your contest had materially exceeded the amount subscribed?—I did.

By a large amount?—A large amount.

Do you remember precisely what amount?—No; I do not think the amount was mentioned to me.

Was it proposed to you then that a negociation should be opened on the part of your friends with the friends of Mr. Beaumont?—A negociation was opened.

With Mr. Beaumont or his party?—With Mr. Beaumont.

Was a part of that negociation to pay a certain sum of money on condition that you retired from the contest, undertaking not to petition against his return?—The result of the negociation was, that I withdrew, and that I afterwards received some money; the negociation itself was perfectly confidential between myself and Mr. Beaumont; that was the result.

Was that sum of money paid over to your committee or parties conducting the election, in liquidation of expenses incurred?—The whole of it.

Was

Was that sufficient for the purpose?—It was not.

Did you supply the rest of the money?—I did.

To cover the whole expense of the election?—I did, beyond the original subscription that had been paid first.

By a Lord.] The amount received was short of the expense, not only including what you paid, but the original subscription of 3,000*l.*?—Just so.

Mr. *Rushton.*] What amount did you subscribe to liquidate the whole?—I think my first subscription, when I stated that I would not be at any expense, was 300*l.*; I think I afterwards paid 600*l.* or 700*l.* to make up the whole.

Do you happen to recollect what the whole amount expended was?—Not exactly.

Was it 5,000*l.* or 6000*l.*?—Upwards of 6,000*l.*

Have you any doubt that you were defeated by direct bribery on that occasion?—I cannot entertain any doubt upon that subject.

Have you had the good or ill fortune to be present at many elections?—I have been at a few; two or three.

Did you ever see anything to be compared to the corruption of Stafford on that occasion?

Mr. *Whateley* objected to the question.

The Counsel were informed this question could not be put.

Mr. *Rushton.*] During that election were you questioned as to your political principles by the voters?—I recollect only one question being put to me, and I have no recollection of any other; I believe there was not.

You canvassed the whole constituency of the borough?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Although you were asked only one question, I take for granted that you made some extremely eloquent and good expositions of your own opinions and principles?—I did state my own opinions and principles.

Very fully?—Very fully.

Your opinions on the leading topics of the day?—Yes, just so.

Will you allow me to ask what was the question proposed to you?—Whether I should vote for Catholic Emancipation or not.

That was one of the most important topics that then agitated the public mind?—It was so.

And you stated your opinion upon that point?—Yes.

You have been asked whether you had resolved not to spend any money?—In bribery I had determined not to spend any money till Mr. Beaumont came down.

In illegal means?—Certainly not in bribery.

It had never entered into your mind to do it?—It must have entered into my mind in a degree, because it was exceedingly well known that it was the custom to give a sum of money to the voters after the election. As far as the committee were concerned, the committee had resolved that no money should be so applied of their subscription.

There was of course drinking going on?—Of course.

You have been asked whether you have been at other elections; did you ever know an election where drinking was not going on?—Certainly I never did.

Had you been resident in Stafford, or connected particularly with the town? Not particularly connected with the town; I was a magistrate for the county.

Not even attending the Stafford sessions?—No.

Although well known in the town of Birmingham and in the city of Worcester, you were not personally known to the inhabitants of Stafford?—I was known to a great many.

Not to the great majority of the persons residing there?—Certainly not.

You say that until Mr. Beaumont came down there was no idea of any money being given for votes?—With the qualification I have before expressed.

There was a determination on your part not to give?—Yes.

There was no intention to give anything for votes until after Mr. Beaumont had been polling for some time?—No.

It was an impromptu at the moment?—Yes, certainly.

Not a laboured impromptu of three months in preparation, but an impromptu of the moment?—Certainly.

R. Spooner, Esq.

13 July 1836.

It is perhaps almost a personal question; you say you afterwards received some money; I need hardly ask whether one shilling of that was for your own personal benefit?—Every farthing was paid over to the committee.

And more?—Yes, and more.

Re-examined by Mr. *Rushton.*

Though not a resident at Stafford, I believe your banking establishment was well known in the county?—Very well known.

In the mining districts particularly?—Yes, certainly.

By a Lord.] You did not happen to hear Mr. Beaumont's closing address after the election?—I did not.

Are the House to understand that no money was paid in bribery on the part of persons concerned for you until the second day of the election?—I did not know of any; indeed of my own knowledge I did not know of any being paid.

Did you believe that none was paid till the second day?—I have no knowledge on the point whether it was paid or not; as far as my opinion goes I believe there was none paid; but I have no knowledge on the subject.

What was the state of the poll on the first day?—One hundred and thirty-six for Mr. Beaumont, and one hundred and twenty-seven for myself.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Thomas Gisborne, Esquire, a Member of the House of Commons, attending by permission of the House, having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

T. Gisborne, Esq.

Mr. *Austin.*] WERE you a candidate for the borough of Stafford in the years 1830 and 1831?—Yes.

Was Mr. Lee your agent in those years?—Mr. Lee was a servant of my own, whom I took with me to Stafford.

He was not a resident there?—No.

Is Mr. Lee living or dead?—He is dead.

How long has he been dead?—He died in January this year.

Do you remember a person of the name of Marson at Stafford at either of those elections?—I do not recollect the name; I have heard it mentioned lately; but I should not have recollected the name unless it had been lately called to my recollection.

You did not see him yourself?—I dare say I did, but I do not recollect seeing him.

Have you any account relating to the election of 1830?—I do not know this writing shown me.

Had you any money at Webb's bank in that year?—Yes, in both years, I think; I think in 1830. I in the first instance put 1,000*l.* into Webb's bank, and in a day or two afterwards another 1,000*l.*

That was in 1830?—Yes.

Do you know how the money was disposed of in 1830?—I cannot say that I know exactly; I know that none of it was disposed of in paying any man for his vote. I know that in the year 1830 I did not pay a single man for his vote; I told him I would pay nothing for votes; but I have a strong suspicion a small sum was so paid by parties in Stafford who acted as agents; a good deal of it certainly was spent in very extensive treating.

Do you know the phrase "ticket-money" at Stafford?—Yes, giving tickets.

Do you know whether in the year 1830 any ticket-money was given?—Yes.

Do you know to what amount?—No; but I remember giving it openly from the window of the inn; but that money was not given with reference to any man's vote; it was given indiscriminately to every burgess, whether you expected him to vote for or against you; and it was considered it was very unhandsome in the borough to canvass any man at the time you gave that money to him. Burgesses at Stafford considered after the election began it was their privilege or their duty to look after the interest of the borough, therefore they struck work, and that was given them in lieu of wages to keep their families; and if there were three candidates, one gave it one day, and another candidate two days afterwards, and two days after another, till the election took place; but it had no reference whatever to which way the man was to vote; it was given indiscriminately to all burgesses who applied for it, whether they were expected to vote for you or against you.

It was more in the nature of head-money than of bribery?—I do not know what head-money means.

Had you any account given you?—This is the account in Mr. Lee's writing of the amount which he paid.

And you have discharged that?—Yes; it is six years ago; I have never looked at this since, except that I believe I saw it once casually for a few minutes. This is an account of expenditure of 2,286 *l.*; and here is also a statement where the money came from.

[*The same was delivered in, and read as follows:*]

EXPENSES at *Stafford*, July 1830.

1830.		£.	s.	d.
July 19 - -	Samuel Lea's expense to Macclesfield, &c. - -	0	8	6
July 20 - -	Sent to Mr. Gisborne at the Swan to give away - -	0	4	6
July 21 and 22	711 burgesses, 5*s.* each - - - - - - -	177	15	0
July 23 - -	Expense in and about Stafford with Mr. George Wynne and others after Mr. Gisborne had left - - -	1	11	0
	Bands, ringers, handbells, &c. - - - - - -	2	10	0
	Travelling expenses, &c. to Manchester by night -	1	12	0
July 26 - -	Checks for ale, and sundries, in Mr. Smith's account	520	10	10
	Travelling expenses from Manchester to Stafford -	1	16	0
	Given in small sums to women and others when canvassing - - - - - - - - -	1	13	6
July 29 - -	Checks for ale, and sundries, settled with Mr. R. Smith	217	8	6
	Given in small sums to women and others - - -	2	11	0
	Checks and paid for ale - - - - - - -	44	12	0
	Cash remitted to Mr. George Wynne from Manchester	25	2	6
	Given to Messrs. Cartwright and Wynne, to distribute in ale, 25*l.*, of which they gave me 20*l.* 10*s.* back again - - - - - - - - -	4	10	0
	Given to Mr. Cooke and Mr. Bromley to distribute, 25*l.* and 1*l.* 19*s.* - - - - - - - -	26	19	0
	Cash given to Mr. Sirdefield and Mr. Meeson to distribute, 25*l.*; received back 9*s.* - - - - -	24	11	0
	Cash to Mr. Gisborne - - - - - - -	2	0	0
July 30 - -	Paid by Lea, Cartwright and others, at various houses, on the first day of the poll, for ale to keep the burgesses together - - - - - - - -	87	10	0
	Paid, same day, by Lea, to Wynne and Meeson, and given by them - - - - - - - -	14	0	0
	Given to women and others in small sums - -	2	14	0
July 31 - -	Paid by Lea and others at various houses during the conclusion of the polling - - - - - -	39	0	0
	Sundry accounts brought after the election, and allowed by the committee to be usual and correct -	200	9	4
August 1 -	Sundry other accounts allowed by the committee in like manner - - - - - - - -	104	3	1
	Given to Meeson, and set off in his account - -	25	0	0
	Given to Mr. Sirdefield, and of which 45*l.* is accounted for by Mr. Marson (Query: Had Mr. G. the remainder?) - - - - - - - - -	55	0	0
	Paid in small sums for doorkeepers' wages, given to women, &c. - - - - - - - -	3	9	0
	Flag carriers, paid on the 29th - - - - -	2	2	0
	Torches, paid on the 29th - - - - - -	4	0	0
	Mr. Sirdefield's account amounts to 772*l.* 18*s.*, of which 180*l.* remains unpaid - - - - - -	592	18	0
	Mr. George Wynne - - - - - - -	20	0	0
	Mr. John Wynne - - - - - - - -	20	0	0
	Mr. Meeson - - - - - - - - -	20		0
	Mr. Bromley - - - - - - - - -	20	0	0
	Thomas Tildesley - - - - - - - -	10	0	0
	Paid Tildesley cash which he said he had lent to Mr. Gisborne - - - - - - - -	1	8	6
	Given to servants, waiters, hostler, boots, &c., at Swan	6	5	0
	Lea's expenses on Sunday morning with Sirdefield, the Wynnes, Cartwright, Bromley, &c., including 1*l.* at the Oak, and coach fare to Manchester - - -	2	5	0
	Charges at the bank - - - - - - -	1	6	0
	£.	2,286	5	3

(*continued.*)

T. Gisborne, Esq.

13 July 1836.

1830.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
July 18 - -	Cash from Mr. Gisborne at Manchester		60 0 0
July 22 - -	Ditto - - ditto at Stafford -		140 0 0
		£. s. d.	
	Accounts at the bank - -	1,186 3 -	
	Of which Lea furnished - -	167 3 -	
			1,019 0 0
July 29 - -	Cash from Mr. G. at Stafford - -	-	200 0 0
	Balance of another bank account -	-	590 0 0
	Cash borrowed from Mr. Wynne -	-	20 0 0
	Paid by Manchester business - -	-	258 5 3
			£. 2,286 5 3

There are vouchers, such as they are, for many of the largest of the above sums, tied in packets.

In the year 1831, did you find it necessary to purchase the votes?—In the year 1831, when I went into the borough to canvass, I think three persons, whose names I have totally forgotten, came to me and stated they were deputed by the burgesses to wait upon me; and they said that they were anxious to return me again as their Member; but that they considered that it would be so extremely against the interest of the borough to return any person twice without his paying for the votes, that they could not do it. There was another gentleman, they said, who they knew would be a candidate, who would not pay them; but, rather than establish the precedent of returning the same person twice without his paying, that they would return me, and would return me for less than they would anybody else; that they should be compelled to give their votes to other candidates if I did not agree to pay it. I do not recollect the names of the persons, but I have a perfect recollection of the interview. No person was present at it but those three parties and myself. I told them what was my intention at the time; that I did not intend to pay for votes; and I believe, in the first instance, at the beginning of the election, none of my votes were paid for, unless a small sum obtained from my servant for another purpose was applied to bribing a few persons whose names began with the letter A. They were all called by letter; and I think a few friends of mine, who were zealous, applied not more than 20*l.* or 30*l.* to bribing those persons whose names began with the letter A., and after that they came up and voted very freely. The rule of polling, as may have been stated to your lordships, is, that every man's name is called out of an alphabetical list, and that he cannot appear at all till his name has been called; then, if he does not appear when his name is called, he may come up at any subsequent time when there is a vacancy. I found, that with the exception of those few I do not absolutely know to have been paid, every man who had promised to poll for me when his name was called did not appear, and towards the middle of the day I found that I was in the minority, I think five or six-and-thirty.

By a Lord.] Upon how many; do you recollect?—No. I had a great notion that I had not polled above fifty or sixty votes, so that the other party might have polled perhaps 100; but I cannot be very positive about figures five years ago, not having the slightest idea of having to give an account of the transaction. I did not mean to lose the election, and I had made preparations, at least I had told Mr. Lea, who had known the borough on the occasion of the former election, to make preparations for paying the voters, if necessary; and he had done so, I believe. I sent to him out of the poll in the middle of the day that we were in the minority, and that he must send up some votes; and from that time I began to get up that minority. At the end of the first day's polling I was in the minority of one, and at the end of the second day I think I was in the majority 100.

You gained the election?—I gained the election on both occasions. I will not be positive about those numbers; but I am sure I was in the minority of one at the end of the first day's poll, and that I gained the election ultimately.

Mr. *Austin.*] With respect to the details of the operation, you were not conversant with them?—I know nothing more than that I went in the middle of the day, or towards the close of the first day's poll, particularly to speak to Mr. Lea; I went down to the place when he was paying the voters, and I did see the machinery.

machinery. In fact I saw no man paid, but he explained to me then the preparations which were made for paying votes, or I should not have known them.

I think you have not been a candidate for Stafford since?—No, I have not. I will only say, after they had paid the voters who voted for me after the middle of the first day, they turned back, if I may so say, and paid those who had voted previously, though they had not voted on the promise of being paid; such as pleased to accept it.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

What was the number in 1830 that polled for you?—Six hundred and sixty-six. I recollect it by the three sixes.

On that occasion no money was giving for voting?—No, nor no money promised; I am positive no money was promised by myself, and that I told them publicly that I would not pay them.

Mr. Hawkes was a candidate at that election?—He was.

He was subsequently a candidate at the election of 1831?—He was.

You were told that Mr. Hawkes was about to give no money; that there would be another candidate who would not give any money?—I did not know it would be Mr. Hawkes. There was another gentleman in the town, whose name I forget; I think Mr. Lloyd. Mr. Hawkes was brought in quite suddenly on the evening of the day. Mr. Lloyd went away in the course of the night, when one clear day would have intervened before the polling began, and it was only just on the evening of the day before that Mr. Hawkes came into the town as a candidate; so that I could not have been told by those parties whom I had seen one day previous to that, that Mr. Hawkes was coming, he not coming till the night before. I do not think that they had the slightest idea of his coming.

Who were those three persons?—I cannot recollect their names; I have a recollection of their persons.

Were they persons you had previously known?—They were parties who had voted for me on the previous election.

Were they persons who had interfered much in your election of 1830?—No; they were working shoemakers.

Not leading men?—Not at all leading men in point of business in the town. I should rather infer that they were men trusted by the rest of the burgesses, because I know the impression they made on my mind was, that they certainly were deputed by the large body of burgesses.

You did not know, from any previous interview with them, that they were leaders at the election; you say they did not much interfere in the election of 1830?—I do not recollect their interference. The fact of their coming to me, acting in this candid way, made a great impression on my mind.

What was the answer you gave them?—I told them that it was not my intention to pay any money; I had carried the previous election, and I thought I might carry this too.

The arrangement for giving money commenced in the middle of the first day's poll?—The arrangement was made previously; from the nature of my canvass I was led more to be convinced that I should not be returned unless I did give money. I was canvassing three or four days, and that conviction grew upon me; and having made up my mind that I would buy votes rather than lose the election, I began to make preparations for doing it.

With whom were those preparations made?—I ordered my confidential person whom I brought with me to make the preparations, and he made them without my having any communication with him.

Those arrangements were quite confidential between you and him?—Yes; he knew as well as I knew, that secrecy was an object; and I desired him to make the preparations he thought best and most secure.

In secrecy?—Yes; for paying the voters. At the same time the object would not have been attained unless the general body of the voters had been let know that it was my intention to pay them.

Do you mean to say he had instructions from you to make that communication?—It was very little necessary to make that communication; when one or two had been paid they would soon let the others know.

Not till some had been paid?—I really do not know; I know that part of the arrangement was, that every man after he had polled received a ticket from a clerk he employed, and that he took to the room.

T. Gisborne, Esq.

13 July 1836.

You were in a minority, you say, in the middle of the day; who had the majority over you?—Both the other candidates; but the lowest of them, I think, Mr. Hawkes, had a majority of 35 over me.

Who was the candidate at the head of the poll?—Mr. Campbell.

Mr. Hawkes who had this majority had also been a candidate in 1830?—Yes, he had.

At which no money was paid, to your knowledge, by either of the candidates?—I know nothing of what other candidates did at former elections; and if I did I would not tell; only what I did myself.

You have explained the distribution of money by tickets and the canvass as quite at a different time from the time of giving the ticket money?—Yes. I know it was considered a breach of Stafford etiquette to canvass a man when he had that money; that it was given without reference to whom the parties should vote for. I recollect giving it out of a window in the Swan Inn at Stafford, the most open place, and giving silver all over the town. I stood with a list of voters; every man had 5*s*.

The men having been out of work some time?—Yes; I believe it was etiquette for no one in Stafford to work after the candidates came into the town.

And this was a mode of getting money into the town in lieu of work?—Yes.

At the election of 1831 we have heard some money was advanced on your account during the progress of the polling?—I do not exactly know what you refer to.

One or two witnesses have spoken of small sums they advanced towards the buying of votes?—I do not know that. There was an account between me and a person at Stafford, which had reference to his claiming to have advanced some money.

Was that Mr. Marson?—No; I do not recollect that person's name.

Did not Mr. Marson advance 40*l*.?—I never heard of it. I recollect that there was a difficulty about getting sovereigns and half-sovereigns; they gave 30*s*., I think, for split votes, and 3*l*. for plumpers.

Had you lodged money in the bank?—Yes; and then after that was exhausted I gave checks on my own banker at Derby. If Mr. Marson has said that he advanced Mr. Lee 40*l*., I dare say it is quite correct, but I know nothing of it.

Was Mr. Lee the only person who had anything to do with the money?—Yes. One of my brothers was in Stafford, and when Mr. Lee sent him word he wanted money, he either went to the bank and got the money, or gave a check for it, or managed it in some way.

You took the account lying before you on Mr. Lee's credit; you did not investigate the account?—If there were vouchers I would go by them. I took it principally on Mr. Lee's word. The hotel bill is 772*l*. for three days; that was a large item.

That was the charge at the hotel where you were yourself?—Yes, where I was myself. I recollect seeing the bill, and there was one item that occurred every day, and that was broken glass, 15*l*.

The others were publicans' bills?—Yes, I believe some of them were.

By a Lord.] That account for 2,200*l*. related to the election of 1830, when there were no voters paid?—Yes. I think there was something more; I have a general impression that my election cost me about 2,400*l*.

What did your election of 1831 cost?—It was a trifle less than the election of 1830; I think 100*l*. or 200*l*. less.

Though you paid no voters?—Yes. It is much cheaper to pay the voters, and to have no agents. It is the simplest mode of electioneering possible.

1831 was the first year after the Reform Bill?—No; it was previous to the Reform Bill passing; it was when Parliament was dissolved suddenly. I have never represented Stafford since the Reform Bill passed, nor been a candidate there.

You state the sum paid was 30*s*. for a split vote, and 3*l*. for a plumper?—Yes.

Was that the uniform sum paid, or was any larger sum paid for votes?—I think it began with paying 1*l*. and 2*l*.; they raised it to 30*s*. and 3*l*.; but I think we equalized it afterwards; that those parties who had received less, if they had given me plumpers, had the other sent them afterwards, to put them all on an equality.

Were there any larger sums paid as the election went on?—No. On my part there was no necessity; it was a regular progressive majority after the first day.

But

T. Gisborne, Esq.
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But the voter insisted on the payment of head-money, or whatever you please to call it, which had been the custom at the election?—I suppose it had; but I really know nothing of any Stafford election except those two; I know no more than any other man about the custom, merely what I have heard by report about the custom of the borough, except with reference to those elections. At the first of those elections I was asked to pay the voters. I told them I would not, but that I would retire if anybody came forward that would.

Are you acquainted with any other borough election in England?—I believe I was never at any other borough election in my life.

You cannot say whether this custom of paying a certain sum of money to each voter is anything peculiar in Stafford, or whether it is the same custom which has been so long prevalent in other boroughs?—No, I know nothing about that

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, that the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off to Saturday next, at Ten o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Sabbati, 16° *Julii* 1836.

THE order of the day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled, "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their petition;

Counsel were called in.

Then *John Smart*, Esquire, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows.

John Smart, Esq.
16 July 1836.

Mr. *Rushton.*] I BELIEVE you are a solicitor residing in London?—I am.

Were you present at the election in 1826 for the borough of Stafford?—I was.

Were you concerned during that election for Mr. Beaumont?—I was.

Did you go to Stafford alone?—No; I went to Stafford with Mr. Batty.

Who is Mr. Batty?—I think he is a burgess for the borough; Mr. William Batty, I think, his name was.

Did you regulate the expenditure during that election?—No, certainly not.

Did you arrange any portion of it?—I was generally consulted on the part of Mr. Beaumont on the subject of the expenditure.

Do you produce any documents or accounts relating to that election?—I have got no account in my possession relative to that election other than the public-house accounts.

Will you produce them?—I consider that they are in my possession as the property of Mr. Beaumont, and I plead his privilege before the House as not being bound to produce any accounts of his in my possession.

The Witness was informed that he was bound to produce the accounts referred to.

Mr. *Smart.*] These are the only ones I have relating to accounts upon that election.

[*The Witness produced several accounts, which were inspected by Mr. Rushton.*]

Have you a list of the voters?—I have got the poll-books.

Are they marked?—I do not think they are.

[*The Witness produced the same.*]

This appears to be an alphabetical list of the canvass and promises; are there any marks here of your own?—Not any.

John Smart, Esq.

16 July 1836.

Is that book in your handwriting?—No; there is no book in my handwriting, nor do I know in whose writing it is.

Do you know anything of that book containing a list of names?—Nothing whatever further than that I found it in my possession; the other, I think, is a copy of the poll-book.

You do not know what the crosses at the side denote?—Not at all.

Have you any other papers or documents whatever relating to that election?—I have some letters relating to the election, but very distantly connected with it.

Do they relate to the amount expended?—No, they do not.

Are they letters relating to the expenditure of money at that election?—They may have some reference, but very trifling, to it.

Have the goodness to refer to them?—I apprehend that I am not bound to produce letters written from Mr. Beaumont to myself.

Mr. *Whateley* submitted, that the witness ought not to be called upon to produce the letters received from his client.

Mr. *Rushton.*] From whom are the letters?—Some of them are from Mr. Beaumont, others from persons resident in the borough, and one or two of them from Mr. Flint, a solicitor, who was one of the agents employed on the part of Mr. Beaumont in the borough.

By a Lord.] Are these letters from residents of the borough to yourself or to Mr. Beaumont?—To myself.

Mr. *Rushton* stated, that he did not press for the production of letters from Mr. Beaumont to the witness, but any letters which had passed between the burgesses of Stafford and the witness relating to the expenditure of the money.

The Witness was informed, that he was bound to produce the letters received from burgesses of Stafford.

Mr. *Whateley* submitted, that the witness was not bound to produce any letters from Mr. Flint, the agent of Mr. Beaumont.

The Witness was informed, that he must produce all the letters referred to, except those from his client, Mr. Beaumont.

Mr. *Smart.*] I have no letters in my possession from Mr. Flint earlier than the 10th of June 1827.

Mr. *Rushton.*] You will have the goodness to produce what you have?—These are all the letters that passed between me and the burgesses of the borough.

[*The Witness delivered in the same.*]

By a Lord.] What are the other letters in your hand?—They are letters from Mr. Beaumont to myself, and from my own partner.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Was the letter that you say you had from your partner relative to the expenditure of money at that election?—It was relative to the arrangement upon that head.

Will you produce it, if you please?—This letter was written partly by Mr. Beaumont.

Mr. *Whateley* stated, that this stood in the situation of a letter from Mr. Beaumont, and that the witness was not at liberty to produce it.

Mr. *Rushton* submitted, that this was not a privileged communication, for that if Mr. Beaumont was a witness at the bar he would be compellable to answer to the matters referred to in the letters.

The Witness was informed, that the letters from his partner must be produced.

[*The Witness produced a letter.*]

Mr.

Mr. *Rushton.*] I do not wish to read any part written by Mr. Beaumont?—There is no part of this letter written by Mr. Beaumont.

You stated that you had a letter written partly by Mr. Beaumont?—I have a letter in my possession, partly written by Mr. Beaumont and partly written by me myself, and addressed to my partner, to which one of those letters is an answer. The answer I gave was with reference to a letter partly written by Mr. Beaumont. Mr. Beaumont and myself were at Stafford, and Mr. Beaumont wrote to my partner, and I wrote in the same letter, and I had an answer to that letter.

The Witness was informed, that the letter in question must be produced, and he produced the same.

Mr. *Smart.*] I am not aware that I have read these letters since 1826, therefore I cannot say whether these letters are in answer to that letter, but I believe them to be so; I have generally looked at them.

By a Lord.] Had you not notice on Wednesday that you would be required to give evidence?—Yes; and I came down on Wednesday. I have looked at them generally to see that they relate to the same subject.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Will you read your own letter annexed to Mr. Beaumont's letter? I will not ask to have it read publicly; I will then put a question upon it.

[*The Witness read the same.*]

Were you employed during that election in any negociation to raise a sum of money?—I was not employed to raise any sum of money during that election, but I was employed by Mr. Beaumont for the purpose of procuring a sum previously negociated for other purposes; a sum of money from his bankers.

How much money?—I think the sum was 1,000*l.*

Was not it proposed to raise the sum of 10,000*l.*?—No; that was a matter which Mr. Beaumont was negociating with his solicitor in the north, previously to the Stafford election, entirely unconnected with the Stafford election; that was the only objection I had to producing that letter; it was connected with Mr. Beaumont's own private affairs, and the raising a sum of money, which had no reference whatever to Stafford.

The Counsel were informed, that the only ground on which any letter of Mr. Beaumont could be received, was its bearing on the subject of the election.

Mr. *Smart.*] This letter is connected with it, but very remotely connected with it.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Do I understand you to say, having read this letter, that the proposal to raise 10,000*l.* had no connexion with the election at Stafford?—None whatever.

Are those all the documents you have relating to that election?—No, certainly not; I have some others here; I have some minutes of voters; you may call them documents.

Are those the names of persons who voted?—I believe they are, but they are not in my handwriting.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Do you know that they voted?—No.

Mr. *Rushton.*—Then you need not put in that.

[*The Witness handed over several papers, which were examined by Mr. Rushton and returned.*]

Have you looked over these papers lately?—I have selected them from other papers that had no reference whatever to the borough, and have brought them here for the purpose; but I do not pretend to say that I have read them all through; I have not done so. I was directed to produce any connected with the borough, and any I found connected with the borough I selected for that purpose.

Have the goodness to look at the paper just produced by you; do you recollect seeing that paper at Stafford?—No, not all.

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Any of those papers?—No, I do not recollect the fact of seeing them; having them in my possession, I have no doubt they were at Stafford.

Whose handwriting are they?—This is in the writing of a clerk of mine, this in the handwriting of Mr. Tarleton, but I do not know whose handwriting the other is in.

Did any question arise at that election as to the unpolled and unpaid voters, whether they were to be paid or not?—Yes, there did.

Was that question referred to any persons to decide?—

The Counsel were informed, that evidence ought not to be given of any arrangements or proposals made, unless the same were carried into effect.

Mr. *Rushton* was heard in support of the evidence, and referred to a paper delivered in by the witness, the reference to which was objected to by Mr. Whateley.

Mr. *Rushton.*] That paper is in the handwriting of your clerk?—It is.

Mr. *Whateley.*] What has become of that clerk?—He is dead.

Mr. *Rushton* tendered this paper in evidence.

Mr. *Whateley* was heard against the reception of this paper in evidence.

The Counsel were informed, that this paper did not appear admissible in evidence.

Mr. *Rushton.*] Were you entrusted with the payment of any bills during that election?—Yes, I was.

Were you assisted by Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Passman?—I hardly was entrusted with the payment of bills; they were principally paid by Mr. Tarleton; but I consulted and advised with Mr. Tarleton upon the subject.

What bills were they?—The public-house accounts, I suppose, are those to which you allude.

To what amount were they?—At this distance of time I can hardly venture to say what the amount of the public-house accounts was; I do not remember it.

Can you say whether they were 1,000*l.*, or 2,000*l.*, or 3,000*l.*, or 4,000*l.*?—Not at all; I should think perhaps they might have exceeded 1,000*l.*, but really do not know at all.

Were the public-houses in Stafford opened generally during that election?—They were.

How long did the election last?—A week.

Are you acquainted with the names of the public-houses?—The principal inn was the Swan.

Do you know whether there were 21 opened or not?—I should think very likely there were 20 houses in Stafford.

By a Lord.] Were all the houses in Stafford open?—No; part of them were in the interest of Mr. Spooner; at least I imagine so.

Mr. *Rushton.*] You assisted at the payment of the publicans' bills?—I assisted with reference to the payment, but I am not sure that I assisted at the payment.

You think they amounted to about 1,000*l.*—I should say that they did.

Not to 2,000*l.* or 3,000*l.*—No, I should think not; but I have given you the principal, much the largest.

What did that in particular amount to?—I think, as well as I recollect, that is between 300*l.* and 400*l.*, but I do not remember; that was the principal.

Three hundred and forty-eight pounds eight shillings and sixpence, is not it?—Yes, it is.

You do not know that there were 21 houses opened in Stafford besides that?—No; I have no recollection whatever of the number.

There was some dispute about the bills, was there not?—Oh yes; they were very much overcharged.

Do you remember the amount to which they were reduced?—I do not at all remember the amount.

Was

Was there a claim for payment on the part of the voters who had supported Mr. Spooner?—[Mr. *Whateley*. Do you know that of your own knowledge?]—I do not remember that there was.

Mr. *Rushton*.] Was there a claim for payment on the part of any burgesses after the election?—There was a claim made for payment by two burgesses who had not voted at all.

What number had claimed?—That I cannot say.

Were you one of the committee to decide upon that?—Oh no, certainly not; I was not on the committee at all.

Do you know what money was expended at that election on the part of Mr. Beaumont?—On a little calculation, I should say the election must have cost Mr. Beaumont somewhere between 8,000*l*. and 9,000*l*.

Are you aware how that money was expended; you have told us about 1,000*l*. in the public-houses; how was the balance expended?—I only know that the money was handed over to Mr. Tarleton, and that by Mr. Tarleton it was appropriated; I cannot say whether the amount was appropriated to the purpose for which it was given.

Were you present at any place where any voters for Mr. Beaumont were paid?—I was not present at any place where any voter for Mr. Beaumont was paid; I was present for about two minutes in a room where tickets were given to one or two voters.

After they had voted?—No, before the election at all.

What were those tickets for?—It is so long ago I have a difficulty in speaking to the facts; but to the best of my recollection they were slips of paper representing some 10*s*. or 20*s*., by which the voter was entitled to go to some house and receive some groceries or something else.

Were you present at any place, at any time during the election or before the election or after it, in which any persons received money for their votes?—No, I was not, further than the transactions I have mentioned.

Mr. *Whateley*.] Was that receiving money for votes?—No.

Mr. *Rushton*.] Did you arrange with Mr. Tarleton for the expenditure of 8,000*l*. or 9,000*l*.?—I advised with Mr. Tarleton generally upon the subject.

What was the nature of the advice you gave?—The arrangements were, first, how much should be paid to each person who voted, and that sum was to be handed over to him.

Did you frequently consult with Mr. Tarleton upon the subject?—During the course of the election I saw him every day.

At what price did you begin?—I believe we began at the price we left off at.

What was that?—I believe it was 6*l*. 10*s*. a man.

Do you know of any higher sum than that being given?—No, I do not; I speak of 6*l*. 10*s*. from mere recollection.

How many voters did Mr. Beaumont poll?—That I do not recollect.

Mr. *Whateley*.] Is that book you are referring to in your own handwriting?—No.

Mr. *Rushton*.] Do you know how many polled for Mr. Beaumont?—No; I have just seen the poll-book.

Mr. *Whateley*.] Do you know without that?—No; I should have a general idea that it was about 250, and I see the poll-book states it at 252.

Mr. *Rushton*.] I understand you to say that the election cost about 8,000*l*. or 9,000*l*.?—Yes.

I understand you to say also, that only about 1,000*l*. was spent in public-houses?—Yes; I think, from recollection, that was the amount of the public-house accounts; but I speak entirely from recollection, and having no account before me to refresh my memory.

Are you enabled to account for the expenditure of the balance of the 8,000*l*. or 9,000*l*., except in the way you describe of the payments to voters?—There was a sum of about 1,000*l*. was paid immediately after the election to bell-ringers and persons of that description that were concerned during the election.

That would deduct from the 8,000*l*. or 9,000*l*., 2,000*l*.?—Yes.

Was the balance appropriated in the way you have described?—Oh no; there was a sum of about 3,000*l*., I think, I understood to be paid to Mr. Spooner.

Was the balance, deducting that 3,000*l*., paid in the manner you describe to the voters?—No, not the whole.

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Mr. *Whateley*.] You paid it to Mr. Tarleton?—I did not pay it at all; it was paid to him.

Mr. *Rushton*.] Was the sum of 8,000*l*., deducting the amount which had been referred to, paid to the voters?—The voters, as I mentioned before, I think, were to be paid 6*l*. 10*s*. a man; I am not aware that any voter was to be paid any more than that.

Had you communications with Mr. Flint during that election?—Yes, I had.

Was he present at any of your communications with Mr. Tarleton?—To say that he was not present at any consultations with Mr. Tarleton would be difficult, but I do not suppose he was.

Was he informed of your proceedings with respect to the voters?

Mr. *Whateley* objected to the question.

The Counsel were informed, that conversation with Mr. Flint was not evidence unless it had to do with any act done.

Mr. *Smart*.] Speaking from faint recollection, at this distance of time, I should say I did not communicate it to Mr. Flint.

Mr. *Rushton*.] Was this arrangement you made with Mr. Tarleton perfectly notorious in the town of Stafford?—That I should not be able to say, for I never spoke to any person; I should not say I never spoke to anybody in the borough on the subject, but I spoke to very few.

Did you attend at the poll booth?—Yes, for a few minutes, but not generally; the polling was in the town-hall; I was there a part of the time.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whateley*.

If I understand you, the sum of 1,638*l*. was the whole sum that was paid to voters upon that occasion, or given to Mr. Tarleton, the voters having 6*l*. 10*s*. each, there being 252 voters?—The sum expended by Mr. Tarleton did not pass through my hands.

The arrangement, you say, was made for 6*l*. 10*s*. a head?—Yes.

Then that is a matter for Cocker?—Yes; those were the voters that polled.

You say there were some of the bills very much overcharged for ale; have you or not found that gross overcharges have been made in the sums charged by the public-houses?—I considered so.

Did it happen to you to have a house gauged to see whether the whole house, bed-rooms and all, would hold the quantity of ale charged in that election?—No; we had no house gauged for the purpose, but in consequence of the charges made we saw the exciseman, and the quantity charged was more than the quantity that had been in the house the whole time.

In what proportion?—It is so long ago I cannot say.

Was it much larger than the cellar would contain?—From recollection I think it was more; it was much more than there had been in the house during the election.

What has become of Mr. Tarleton?—I do not know where he is at the present moment.

When did you see him last?—I saw him last, I think, in 1832, or it might be in the spring of 1833.

What was he?—He was a gentleman; his father was a man of considerable property, but was embarked in West India affairs.

Do you know what has become of Mr. Tarleton?—I have heard within this last day or two where he is supposed to be; in fact, it was communicated to me quite confidentially, under strict confidence, and without reference to those proceedings.

You say you do not know that any of the money was expended by Mr. Tarleton?—I did not see him expend it.

You say you were present when some tickets were given; was not the arrangement that they should be given indiscriminately to all voters, without regard to the party for whom they were expected to poll?—Certainly; that was before the election.

Re-examined by Mr. *Austin*.

What was the gross sum paid for the election?—I think myself the sum must have been somewhere between 8,000*l*. and 9,000*l*.

Is

Is it correct that 1,638*l.* was paid to the voters?—As I stated before, I know nothing of the payment to voters beyond the bills, but I understood generally that the arrangement was to have 6*l.* 10*s.* a man; I never saw Mr. Tarleton's accounts.

The sum of 3,000*l.* was paid to Mr. Spooner?—Yes, so I understood.

And 1,000*l.* to the bell-ringers?—No, not to bell-ringers, but a variety of accounts that were paid the following day after the election.

Specify them a little more accurately?—I have not got the account, and I have a difficulty in specifying them.

What was the nature of them?—It was those accounts that could be considered at all properly accounts of the election.

That is the vaguest thing in the world; was it the flag-men and the chairing?—Yes, the flag-men and every thing of that description.

Colours?—Yes, every thing of that description.

One thousand pounds for the publicans' bills?—I think the publicans' bills, as I mentioned before, would amount to something more than that.

That is about 6,500*l.*, leaving about 2,000*l.* to be accounted for?—There were some voters paid subsequently.

Where were they paid?—They were paid at Stafford.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Were you there?—Yes; I was at Stafford at the time, but I was not present.

Mr. *Austin.*] Were you at Stafford afterwards?—Yes.

As the agent of Mr. Beaumont?—Yes.

For what did you go?—I went there with a view to settle the public-house accounts, those that remained, and upon the subject of the payment of voters who did not poll.

How came you to know anything about the payment of voters who did not poll; who informed you of that?—That was a matter discussed in Mr. Beaumont's committee when the election was closed.

Did you know at that discussion that there were other voters unpolled and unpaid?—Yes.

Do you know how many there were unpolled and unpaid?—We had canvassed the borough; we knew the number of promises we had; we had a list of them and we knew who had polled, and the consequence was we must have known who remained unpolled.

Will you inform their lordships about what number, to the best of your recollection, remained unpolled and unpaid, refer to any documents you please to refresh your memory?—I was going to say, first, I do not know how many burgesses there were.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Have the goodness to refer to nothing but what is in your own handwriting.

Mr. *Austin.*] Try and recollect how many voters there were; it is an important matter?—It may be important to be accurate, but I think there might be as many as 800 voters in the borough.

You know how many were polled, 250?—That is what I should have said.

They were polled for Mr. Beaumont?—Yes.

That leaves 550 unpolled?—Then there was the number that polled for Mr. Spooner.

That appears to be 191; that will leave about 350 unpolled and unpaid, 252 having polled for Mr. Beaumont, 191 for Mr. Spooner. Was that the number?—I should think that would exceed the number very considerably.

If you think it must exceed the number you must have some data?—I think the number of promises we received were not 500 altogether, and having polled 252, it would follow that we had not 250 to poll.

Then it was something less than 250; what number was it in round numbers, in your opinion, that were to be paid when you went back to Stafford?—The recollection I have upon the subject is, that there were not more than 140 to be paid.

Those 140 were, to use your own phrase, "the unpolled and unpaid?"—Yes.

One of the intentions of your going to Stafford was to settle those claims?—It was.

Were the claims settled when you got down to Stafford?—I believe they were.

John Smart, Esq.

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Did you take any steps to cause them to be settled?—No. I understood Mr. Beaumont had, previously to our going down to Stafford, handed over money to Mr. Tarleton.

From whom did you understand it?—I believe I understood it both from Mr. Tarleton and Mr. Beaumont.

Did you understand what amount had been handed over for this purpose?—

Mr. *Whateley* objected to the question.

The Counsel were informed, that these facts ought to be proved, if at all, by the parties to the arrangement.

Mr. *Austin*.] Do you know any facts, of your own knowledge, respecting the mode in which this 2,000*l*. was expended?—I do not know the 2,000 *l*. to which you allude.

The last 2,000*l*. We have accounted for 6,500 *l*. out of the 8,500*l*. expended on the election?—There was some part of the surplus of the last sum appropriated in paying the rest of the public-house accounts.

How much of it?—It is impossible for me to say; I have not any recollection. I think I am mistaken in the evidence I gave with respect to the amount of the Swan account, which I took from Mr. Rushton; I think there was 400*l*. paid at last, after paying apart 200*l*. and 200*l*.; the calculation of 374*l*. which Mr. Rushton gave me, is for wines, spirits, and those sort of things, and therefore that account exceeded that sum of course.

That will account for 400*l*. more. Can you inform their lordships what became of the residue, after paying the publicans' bills?—I did not see any part of the residue paid to any persons whatever; I might have seen, for example, the remuneration to Mr. Flint, but I do not recollect that I did.

By a Lord.] When you went down to Stafford after the election you went down to settle those accounts?—Yes.

To finish the payment of the innkeepers' bills, and to pay the voters who were unpaid and unpolled?—That was the object of our visit.

Who were with you?—I went down with Mr. Tarleton.

You took the money for the purpose?—As I mentioned before, I understood from Mr. Beaumont and Mr. Tarleton.

Did you take the money down for the purpose?—I did not.

How were you to procure money to settle this account?—As I understood from Mr. Tarleton and Mr. Beaumont, it had been handed over by Mr. Beaumont to Mr. Tarleton.

Mr. Tarleton went down with you?—He did.

You were sent down by Mr. Beaumont?—I went down as Mr. Beaumont's solicitor.

If you had not anything to do with the money, or with the payment, for what purpose did you go down?—I went down generally to assist Mr. Tarleton; it was Mr. Beaumont's wish I should go down.

In what were you to assist him?—There were several public-house accounts which remained pending unsatisfied, and I went down for that purpose.

For the purpose of overhauling the accounts?—For the purpose of settling the accounts, or assisting with my advice.

You had nothing to do with the money?—Mr. Tarleton procured the money that was paid.

Did you pay any yourself?—I think I might.

The bills to the inns?—Yes.

But not to voters?—No, not to the voters.

You were not cognizant of that?—I did not see the payment; I advised and talked of the matter.

You advised as to the unpolled voters?—It was a matter of discussion between us.

Between whom?—Mr. Tarleton and myself.

When?—Both in and immediately after the election.

The parties who advised on this immediately after the election were you and Mr. Tarleton and Mr. Beaumont?—Yes.

Mr. Flint?—I do not recollect that he was present.

Who else was present?—I do not recollect that anybody else was present, and I was particularly careful during the election.

When

When did you become acquainted with Mr. Tarleton?—I had known him some years before the election.

Was he a Stafford man?—No; a Northumberland man.

When did you become acquainted with Mr. Batty?—I became acquainted with Batty immediately before the election of 1826.

You went down with Batty?—Yes.

Who introduced Batty to you?—I received a letter from Mr. Beaumont upon the subject of standing for the borough of Stafford, and called upon the present Attorney-General upon the subject.

Who introduced Mr. Batty to you?—Mr. Batty and Mr. Flint called upon me themselves.

Mr. Flint introduced Mr. Batty to you?—They called together.

Did you know Flint before?—No.

How did they introduce themselves to you?—They introduced themselves as having been referred to me by the present Attorney-General.

For what purpose?—I having mentioned to the Attorney-General previously Mr. Beaumont's wish to stand for the borough.

Were they to introduce Mr. Beaumont for the borough?—That was the object of my seeing them.

They came to you as Mr. Beaumont's solicitor?—Yes.

Did they say who wished Mr. Beaumont to come?—No. I had previously communicated with the present Attorney-General upon the subject of the election, in consequence of Mr. Beaumont having written to me to know if there was a probability of his succeeding for the borough. I knew there was no chance of success if he stood against the Attorney-General, and I wrote to him to ask him whether he meant to stand for the borough; he said he did not propose to stand for the borough, and should be glad to be of any service to us.

And he sent Flint and Batty to you?—Yes.

What reason did Flint and Batty give for wishing to have a candidate?—In consequence of Mr. Ironmonger's death there was an election expected to take place immediately; the writ was moved for that same week.

There was already a candidate in the field?—I understood that Mr. Spooner had offered himself.

Was there any wish expressed that there should be an opposition to Mr. Spooner?—I take for granted Mr. Batty and Mr. Flint were hostile to Mr. Spooner.

Was it a hostility to Mr. Spooner or a wish to have a contest?—I heard nothing upon that subject.

You are quite sure of that?—Yes, I am.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *Austin* stated, that the only further evidence he had was documentary evidence, which was not quite prepared, but that he should be ready to put it in before the close of the day.

Mr. *Charles Bradford Passman* was then called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Whateley.*] YOU are an attorney and solicitor at Stafford?—I am.

Were you agent for Mr. Farrand in the year 1825?—Yes.

He was a candidate to represent the borough at that election?—He was.

Do you remember being at the poll when the bribery oath was required to be taken?—Yes.

Who proposed it?—It was put, through my instance, by Mr. Farrand, and at the instance of several other respectable gentlemen in the town.

How was that proposal received?—With great applause from the freemen.

By a Lord.] When you say by the freemen, do you mean in contradistinction from the other voters?—The voters generally.

Mr. *Whateley.*] The electors?—The electors.

Was the bribery oath administered after that?—Yes.

At what period of the election was it proposed to be administered?—I should think that the poll had commenced from two to three hours upon the first day.

You say there were several of the respectable inhabitants of Stafford who with yourself mentioned it to Mr. Farrand?—Yes.

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Are you well acquainted with Stafford?—Yes.

You were there for some years?—Yes.

Was there a strong desire at that time, and is there still in Stafford, to improve the constituency, and to put an end to the practice that then existed?—Certainly.

With regard to the elections of 1832 and 1835, was there a strong desire to improve the constituency of Stafford?—Certainly. I know that Mr. Farrand publicly declared that if sixpence would return him he would not give it, and he was very much encouraged in consequence of that declaration.

Then I need hardly ask you whether Mr. Farrand did pay a single shilling for a vote?—Not one shilling I can take upon myself to say.

Did Mr. Farrand stand on Conservative or Whig principles at the election?—Conservative principles.

Do you think that had anything to do with his being a popular candidate there?—I do. Upon the canvass that I went with him he was frequently asked by the parties if he would vote for the separation of church and state, and he said "Decidedly not," and consequently his principles were well known.

By a Lord.] Was he returned?—He was not returned.

Mr. *Whateley.*] How many did he poll?—Three hundred and twelve.

Do you think that the Bill that has been introduced to disfranchise them has produced a considerable impression upon them?—I think it has, in some measure.

Do you think the investigation that took place had a tendency to show them that some of their former practices had been wrong, which they did not think so before?—Certainly.

And the fact of money having been given by persons high in station had made them think that the thing itself was not a crime?—Most assuredly.

By a Lord.] Had money been given by persons high in station?—Sir John Campbell paid very currently when he represented the borough.

Is he the only one?—I should say not the only one, decidedly.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Mr. Blunt also offered, did he not?—Yes.

Mr. Blunt, I believe, stood upon Whig principles?—Certainly.

Do you remember, after the vacancy occasioned by Sir Francis Goodricke being returned for the county, Mr. Blunt coming to Stafford?—Yes, I do recollect it.

Do you remember a declaration being made, that if they would return a Whig they would have a new writ?—He told me himself in the Swan Hotel.

Was there a meeting in Stafford at which that was declared?—There was a meeting at Stafford, but that I cannot speak to of my own knowledge; I did not attend it.

Was it notorious that that was said at a public meeting?—Yes; he declared so afterwards to me.

That if they would return a Whig they should have a new writ?—Yes; he declared that to me previous to the meeting.

Do you remember a petition being got up upon that occasion by Mr. Blunt?—I do.

Was that a petition to elect a Whig member?—It was not a petition but a requisition that he proposed should be got up; and if they would show that a Whig member should be returned, he would undertake to say that a member of the House of Commons would not introduce the Bill against them.

Was he able to procure signatures to that requisition?—I think not.

At the time of the polling at the last election did you hear declarations from freemen that they would not receive money?—Yes.

There were some persons, we have heard, who received money from Captain Gronow; do you know whether those persons, even in the lowest rank of life, were looked down upon by persons in the same class of life in consequence of having received money?—There was one man of the the name of Hammersley said that Captain Gronow had been paying money to the voters, and it was received with much indignation and execration by the men in court at the time.

By a Lord.] When was that?—At the last election, in 1835; it was in the crown court, if I recollect right.

Was there a great desire at the last election to prevent any candidate being returned for money?—Certainly; and there were public declarations made by most of the respectable individuals in the place.

Not to speak of the 10*l.* householders, do you believe at this time that the body of freemen are morally much improved in that respect?—Certainly.

Are

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Are there not a considerable body of young freemen who had never been suspected at all?--Certainly.

Were you agent for Mr. Gisborne in 1830?—I was.

How many voted for him on that occasion?—Six hundred and sixty-six.

Was any money paid for the votes upon that occasion?—None. I took the promises before he came into the town, and he was so popular at the time that they ran after him to promise him their votes, and there were only thirty-four seceders from their promises out of the 666; but his popularity arose in a great measure from his father, a gentleman who lives close by.

At the present time do you believe that, supposing such a man as Mr. Gifford or Mr. Monks, or any man of character and influence near the town, were to offer upon Conservative principles, that he would be returned against a man that came with a heavy purse?—Decidedly; there is no doubt about it.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Is it one of the conditions that he must be of Conservative principles?—I should think he must.

Must he also be resident near the town?—No, it is not necessary that he should be resident near the town; but a man like Mr. Gifford, who spends 1,000*l.* a year in the town, would be returned.

You say he must be a Conservative in his politics?—I think so.

And, secondly, he must be a person having some connexion with the town?—That is not necessary.

Do you mean to say that a person coming from the Land's End, who had never been seen or heard of in Stafford before, would succeed?—If he was backed by a man like Mr. Gifford.

Therefore it is not true that a person totally unconnected with the town, and unbacked Mr. Gifford or some gentlemen like him, would succeed?—If he was guaranteed by the recommendation of a man like Mr. Gifford he would be likely to succeed.

Independently of Mr. Gifford's influence, or influence of a similar kind, would he get in for Stafford against a long purse for bribing?—I should say decidedly, under such circumstances, he would have the best chance of succeeding.

Then a person of Conservative principles, totally unknown and without any friends at Stafford, would get in against bribery?—Against bribery with the Whig principle.

I want to know how you put it, because you are now putting your opinion?—I think that if one stranger was to come to the borough on Conservative principles, and another was to come on Whig principles with money, I think the man professing Conservative principles, if they gave him credit for that profession, would be returned.

These are the conditions under which you will expect him to be returned without spending money?—In my opinion.

Supposing two candidates, a Whig and a Tory, totally unknown in Stafford and without friends there, were to present themselves, and a third gentlemen, whether Whig or Tory, were to come there with 10,000*l.*, which do you think would come in?—I do not think they will receive money at all now.

Do you mean to go so far as this, that it is totally different, and that bribery has no longer any influence in Stafford?—In my opinion it will no longer have any influence in Stafford.

You say that a strong desire has existed to improve the constituency; that certain of the freemen refused bribes at the last election; do you know all the freemen that took bribes at the last election?—I do not.

But you know some freemen who refused bribes by name?—I have the names of some.

Did those persons participate in the treating at the election of 1835?—Undoubtedly.

Is the class of freemen that participated in the treating, that class whom you describe as being desirous of purifying the borough?—Decidedly.

Then the treating is not considered as forming part of the impurity of the borough?—I should think not.

They make that distinction?—I do not know what distinction they make.

Is that your distinction?—Yes.

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Are you aware that extensive treating took place in that year, 1835?—Certainly.

You are aware that extensive treating took place in 1835 on the behalf of your principal, Mr. Farrand?—To some extent, certainly.

Extensive treating?—Yes.

On the part of Captain Chetwynd?—I should think so.

Are those the voters whom you describe as being persons purified at the last election, and as not voting then from impure influences?—Certainly; as far as bribery goes, I am quite sure their feelings are altogether changed.

You were agent for Captain Chetwynd at the election before?—I was.

Do you know Mr. Charles Dawson?—I do.

Had you any communication with him at the election?—I might have had during the election.

With respect to the corruption that took place at that election on the part of the supporters of Captain Chetwynd?—No.

You were not concerned in that part of the conduct of the election?—I was not.

Did you know that bribery was going on on the part of Captain Chetwynd at the election?—Certainly not of my own knowledge.

Was the bribery oath administered at that election?—It was not.

Was there not an agreement between the candidates at the election that the bribery oath should not be put?—Yes.

Did you not act yourself as agent for Captain Chetwynd in forming this agreement?—I did.

At what time of the election?—It was on the Sunday night previous to the commencement of the election.

Will you state the circumstances under which this agreement was made?—Mr. Charles Webb came to me from Mr. Blunt with a written paper, and stated that it was a written agreement, that it was wished that each of the candidates should enter into, not to put the bribery oath to the electors during the poll. I, at the time thinking that it was a trick and that if I had hesitated one moment to say that Captain Chetwynd should sign that agreement, that they might have taken advantage of it, I said, "Captain Chetwynd will sign that paper on the condition that the other candidates do the same." I went with Mr. Webb to the Swan, and Captain Gronow's party were there, and he saw, if I recollect right, Mr. Nixon, and the question was put to him, and he said he had no authority from Captain Gronow to enter into any agreement at the time, but if I would call in an hour he would give me an answer. I went in an hour, and then the agreement was brought to me, signed by Captain Gronow.

It was signed by each of the three candidates?—Yes.

Was the bribery oath put in that election?—No.

That agreement was adhered to during the election?—Yes.

You were agent for Mr. Gisborne in the year 1830?—I was.

You have said that from your knowledge you do not believe any money was paid?—I have said that I do not believe any voter was paid in the shape of bribery at that election, nor do I.

You qualify your answer in that shape?—Yes.

Do you know that extensive treating took place at that election?—Yes.

Do you know that that election cost Mr. Gisborne more than the subsequent election of 1831, at which he bribed?—I do not, nor do I believe it did.

If Mr. Gisborne has stated that fact, is he likely to know?—He is most likely to know.

Re-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

You said that when that resolution was brought to you to be signed, that the candidates should not administer the bribery oath, you believed that it was a trick; was that the reason you acceded to it?—Certainly.

Was there the slightest intention to give a shilling for a vote?—By me it was never thought of, and I never heard it named.

Did you believe at that time, from Captain Chetwynd's popularity in the borough, and from his character, that he was quite sure to be returned without paying a shilling?—Certainly.

By a Lord.] You said that Mr. Blunt promised that if they would undertake to return a Whig candidate, the Bill for disfranchising Stafford should not be introduced

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introduced into Parliament?—I meant that a motion should not be made in the House of Commons to withdraw the writ against the borough.

Are you aware of the fact who moved the first Bill in the former Parliament against this borough?—I do not immediately recollect.

Do you know whether it was a Whig or a Tory?—I believe it was a Whig.

Have you never heard at Stafford that Sir Thomas Freemantle was the chairman of the first committee upon this subject?—That I have heard.

Do you suppose Sir Thomas Freemantle to be a Whig?—I do not know.

He was well known in that part of the country?—He was not.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Thomas Salt, Esq., was then called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Thomas Salt, Esq.

Mr. *Whateley.*] I BELIEVE you are a banker at Stafford?—I am.

Have you been acquainted with Stafford for many years?—Yes, for several years.

Is it notorious in Stafford that an altered state of feeling exists, and that they are desirous of conducting the election upon pure principles?—Very decidedly so.

Have you had communication with different voters since the election of 1832?—Yes; I am not aware that I can name any.

Do you know from those communications whether the fact of money being paid by persons in a respectable station led them to believe that there was no harm in taking it?—I have no doubt of it in a great many instances.

Do you know that from those communications?—I know that from those communications decidedly.

At the election in 1835, from something that occurred, did you believe that bribery was being committed then?—Yes.

In consequence of that did you take means to have the bribery oath put?—A motion was made that the bribery oath should be administered, and I seconded that motion.

Was that in consultation with several of the most respectable inhabitants of the town?—I had previously had consultation with several of the inhabitants of the town upon that subject.

In consequence of that did you go to the polling place, and was the bribery oath proposed to be administered by Mr. Farrand?—It was.

And seconded by you?—Yes.

How was it received?—There was no objection to it.

Was it received with approbation or disapprobation?—There was a little disapprobation in some part.

Was there approbation in other parts?—Certainly.

Cheering?—No; there was nothing of that sort that I remember.

Do you believe that there is a decided improvement in the town of Stafford?—Unquestionably so.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

You are a banker at Stafford; are you a partner of Mr. John Handson Webb?—Yes.

Did not Mr. Blunt keep his banking account during the election there in 1832?—Yes.

And Captain Gronow?—Some transactions passed.

He changed a check there?—Yes.

And Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

And at former elections Mr. Gisborne?—Yes.

Mr. Campbell?—Yes.

Were not those accounts begun and finished with the election for the most part?—Not generally so, I think.

But were not much larger sums paid in and much larger sums drawn out during the period of the election?—Not on all those accounts.

On which of them?—I am hardly prepared to answer that without my books.

Were not most of them merely temporary accounts; do you not know that; Some of them.

Not most of them?—I should think not.

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Were not all but one temporary accounts?—That I am not prepared to answer.

Do you know to what purposes the money drawn from your house during the election was applied?—No.

You knew that those gentlemen were candidates at Stafford at the time?—Yes.

By a Lord.] You are not in the habit as bankers of questioning for what purpose any gentleman draws a check upon you?—By no means.

So that whether it is for a moral or immoral, or for a proper or improper purpose, as a banker you never question?—By no means.

Are you acquainted with the town of Stafford?—Well.

Is the property in the town of Stafford a scattered property as to proprietors, or is it in the hands of one single individual?—It is rather scattered.

A great many freeholds?—Yes.

It is not the property of any one considerable individual?—No.

The houses are generally separate properties?—Yes.

Is not Stafford the seat of many county institutions, and naturally filled with a great number of residents, and very independent and intelligent characters connected with those institutions?—Yes.

Is there not a very large 10*l.* constituency unconnected with the freemen?—I do not know the number of them.

You say that you know from communications that persons have lately altered their opinion as to the morality or immorality of bribery; who are the persons with whom you have had those communications?—I do not think I can name them; there are several persons that I spoke to in both situations.

If you have spoken with several persons, you can state who those persons are?—I do not immediately remember.

Then you cannot name any single individuals with whom you have had these communications from which you derive your knowledge whether the people in general at Stafford have altered their opinion with respect to the morality or immorality of bribery?—I do not think I can answer particularly with regard to them.

You cannot name any single individual?—I have been with them, and occasionally spoken to people, many of whose names I do not know even.

What have you said to those people upon the subject?—I have ascertained that they have not expected or wished that parties should bring down money for the purpose of bribing them, but they have wished that they should be left free.

Cannot you tell any one person from whom you have ascertained that wish?—I would rather not do so.

For what reason had you rather not?—I scarcely remember.

You do not remember any one individual who has expressed to you that wish?—No.

How did this conversation originate; did it begin with you or with those people?—In various ways.

When did these conversations take place?—At various times.

Previous to the last election or since?—Since 1832, certainly.

But previous to the election of 1835?—Probably so.

In your own opinion were the people actuated by the improved morality at the election of 1835?—Certainly.

Do you think they have progressed in this principle of morality since 1835, or are they stationary at the point where they were at that time?—That would be very difficult for me to answer; but I think that if there were another election immediately, and if there was any alteration, it would be for the better; I think there would be less chance of bribery upon another occasion than there was upon the last.

Do you think that there would be any alteration or not?—I think, if there was any, it would be in favour of a fair representation.

But you are doubtful whether there would be any alteration?—I do not know.

You were present at the last election; did you think that a very pure and well-conducted election?—I think in a great many instances it was so. There were some few parties who were bribed on that occasion, and probably there might be some again.

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Do you think the last election was an election carried on in such a way as elections ought to be carried on?—It was generally so.

Universal drinking in the town?—With regard to that, there was considerable treating, I believe.

Universal drunkenness?—By no means.

All the houses in Stafford were open?—I am hardly able to say what houses were open.

Do you know how much money was spent by the friends of the candidates?—No.

Several of those accounts went through your house. Mr. Holyoake's; was that at your house?—Part of it. We had no account of that, but only some bills passed.

Do you know what was the amount of those bills?—I do not recollect.

But, generally speaking, you think the election was purely and properly conducted?—For the most part it was.

Was that the opinion of those persons from whose communications you know that people generally condemned the former practices, and who think that the borough is now purified?—I know that several people were very much annoyed that there should be any bribery at the last election; it was very much wished that that should be prevented, and I know that the men did not expect any of it immediately before the election.

Then do those people, putting the bribery out of the question, think that the last election at Stafford was a pure and properly-conducted election?—I do not know to what extent the treating is considered so.

Was that the opinion of those persons with whom you have been communicating upon the subject?—They would wish that there was less treating.

Have you communicated with them since the last election?—I have communicated with many persons since the last election.

And you cannot recollect out of those many any one, nor the occasion of that communication?—I have conversed with many.

But you cannot recollect the name of any one, or the occasion of that conversation?—No.

Do you mean that you are in daily communication with the inhabitants of the town in which you live?—Every day, almost; I am there every day of my life.

And you are in the constant habit of conversation with the persons of the town?—I am.

But you do not recollect the particular persons who have used any particular expressions?—I do not, and that is what I wish to state.

Are you in constant habitual communication with the persons in the town with respect to the purity or impurity of the elections?—If they come into my bank on other business I frequently speak to them on such subjects.

That is the usual conversation in your bank, is it?—No; but on my return home, and at other times.

Do not you frequently pass the day constantly conversing with people on different subjects, without being able to give evidence as to any particular expressions that passed with any one?—Decidedly.

From your knowledge of the borough of Stafford, do you believe that in its present state it is more likely to be operated upon by bribery at any future election than any other town of the same size in England?—Of my own knowledge I know very little of any other; but I do not think it is at all to be materially acted upon now.

Do not you believe that in a town where the inhabitants are so numerous, that persons who will bribe will always find some to take their bribes?—I am sure of it.

Do you think money would have any influence on an election now at Stafford?—With a certain class it would.

Do you think if a Whig went down with a boat-load of sovereigns he would have any chance against a Tory who had no money?—I am hardly prepared to answer that. Most decidedly I think that the men would be very much less inclined to receive money than they have been hitherto; but there is a certain class of men who will always receive if it is offered to them.

Then he might have some chance?—I think very little.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

T. Hawkes, Esq.

16 July 1836.

Thomas Hawkes, Esquire, a Member of the House of Commons, attending by permission of the House, was then called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:—

Mr. *Whateley*.] ARE you the present member for the borough of Dudley?—I am.

You succeeded the present Attorney-General in that borough?—I did.

Were you a candidate to represent the borough of Stafford in the year?—I believe it was that year.

Upon that occasion Mr. Campbell, the present Attorney-General, and Mr. Gisborne and yourself, were the candidates?—We were.

Do you remember when you went into the borough how long it was before the election began?—Three or four days.

Had the other candidates been in the field some time then?—I think they had been then several days in the field.

Upon that occasion you polled 305 votes?—I believe I did.

At the time you offered yourself did you make any statement that you would not give any money for a vote?—I did.

Did you adhere to that?—I did, strictly.

Were you upon that occasion supported by some of the most respectable inhabitants in the town in that determination?—I consider them so.

Were you also a candidate in the year 1831?—I was.

The same persons stood again, the present Attorney-General, Mr. Gisborne, and yourself?—Yes.

It appears upon that occasion you polled 416?—I believe that is correct.

Did you pay a single shilling for a vote upon that occasion?—Not one.

Did you hold out any promise or expectation that you would do so?—Not the least; on the contrary.

Did you make any declaration that you would not do so?—I did.

And notwithstanding that you polled 416 votes?—I did.

That was before the Reform Bill?—I believe it was.

At that time those were freemen?—Freemen and burgesses.

I hardly need ask you whether a great many of the men as well as the masters voted for you?—No doubt of it; as a proof of it, two men who had promised me their votes, and I will take this opportunity of naming them; they were poor men in rags and tatters; they were offered four sovereigns each, and I believe put into their hands, which they disdainfully refused, and gave me their vote, and I think it is but an act of justice to these characters to state that. There might be perhaps a great many more, but those two came under my own knowledge.

You know nothing of the subsequent elections?—No.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin*.

What were the names of these virtuous electors?—John Ford, and a man who goes by the name of the Duke Warner.

They are of the lower class of freemen?—Yes.

How do you know that they were offered four sovereigns?—They stated it to me, and as a reward for their honesty they are my pensioners to the amount of 2 *s*. a week.

You have not happened to learn whether, on the 10th or 12th of September 1832, John Ford took a bribe for voting a plumper for Mr. Blunt?—No; I know nothing of any previous election but that in which I was engaged.

Do you happen to know whether John Warner took a bribe at that same election for giving one vote for Captain Chetwynd and another for Mr. Blunt?—I know nothing at all of the election between Captain Chetwynd and Mr. Blunt.

In the election of 1831 whom did you employ as your agent?—I am almost inclined to think that I had no agent at all.

And no committee?—Not any of my own selection.

Who was your agent?—Mr. Weaver brought me to Stafford.

He had been your agent in 1830?—Yes; but not as a paid agent, more as a friend.

You gave him two 250 *l*. checks in the year 1830?—It is very likely I did, but not till after the election was over.

Do

Do you know whether tickets were distributed amongst the burgesses in 1830?—There were, but I was not conscious of it till the election was over; but I was informed of it, and I immediately gave a check for the amount.

That was 500*l.*, was it not?—Yes.

Mr. Weaver has told us that there were two checks of 250*l.* each; I suppose that was the accurate amount?—Very likely.

Re-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Were there any tickets given in the year 1831?—I believe not.

The tickets were given indiscriminately to voters, without reference to any particular candidate?—I was told they were delivered, but not till afterwards.

By a Lord.] Those were 5*s.* and 10*s.* tickets?—I think they were; it was stated to me after the election. Mr. Weaver informed me that he had delivered some tickets to the wives of the burgesses, and I said that I was rather surprised that he should do that without my knowledge.

The other candidates had been in the field some days before you appeared?—Yes; I believe they had.

You came at the request of Mr. Weaver?—I came at the requisition of about 600 or 700, who pledged themselves to vote for me.

And disappointed your expectation?—Certainly.

Did you hear anything about a third man being very much wanted upon that occasion?—No. I was told the two candidates were by no means popular, and that they were determined to return a third man.

Upon 600 promises you came, and you did not bribe at all?—Not one farthing.

And the others bribed away?—That I have no means of ascertaining.

The others came in?—Yes.

And your promises all failed you except 305?—Yes; I believe that is not a very uncommon thing in elections.

In 1831 were they in the field before you?—They were.

Many days?—A Mr. Loyd, a banker, was in the field before I came.

And Mr. Campbell and Mr. Gisborne?—Yes.

Were you induced by the same party and the same promises?—Not exactly.

What induced you to go; did you go of your own accord?—Certainly not; I was invited by Mr. Wright, a man of great influence in the borough, and several other gentlemen, Mr. Cramer.

Had you many promises then?—I told them I had not the least objection to go if they were sincere, but I would not put myself to one farthing expense, and I entered the field again.

And you were beat again?—Yes.

Had you any reason to expect greater support upon that occasion than upon the former?—Certainly; because upon the first occasion I received a very handsome compliment from the borough of Stafford; they presented me with a piece of plate to the value of 150 guineas.

What was that for, for coming?—They were pleased to express, for the very liberal and handsome way in which I had conducted myself at the election.

When was that?—At the first election.

Was it subsequent to the first election?—Yes.

Who voted for this?—I believe all the respectable people, at least of my friends at Stafford.

At a public meeting?—I do not know whether it was public or private.

You had no piece of plate after the second?—No.

You did not bribe at the second election?—Nor at the first.

And you were not paid for coming to the second election?—I was not.

At the second election you had 100 more votes than you had at the first?—I believe I had; at the last election I polled 416, and I was near 100 ahead at one time.

So that you polled upwards of one-third more, notwithstanding the experience that the electors of Stafford had had that you would promise nothing and that you would pay nothing?—I told them when I first arrived that I came there not to deceive them nor be deceived myself; that if one sixpence would return me for the borough of Stafford I would not give it.

Is there not a very respectable body of constituency at Stafford?—A very highly respectable body.

T. Hawkes, Esq.

16 July 1836.

Should you say as much so as in any country town in England?—As much so as in any borough almost in the kingdom.

Have you any reason to suppose that persons coming down to influence elections merely by bribery would have more influence in the borough of Stafford than in any other borough of the same size?—I believe firmly that no man could get in at Stafford upon bribery.

Upon what is that belief founded?—Because I have heard them express themselves to that effect.

Who?—Many of the burgesses.

The majority of the burgesses?—I do not know the majority, because I have not had much intercourse with them.

A dozen perhaps?—A dozen and more than a score perhaps.

Not two score?—I cannot say.

You know sometimes they can disappoint people?—Yes, as in other boroughs.

Have you any experience in other boroughs?—I never offered myself but for Stafford and Dudley.

Therefore of your own knowledge you do not know anything of any other boroughs except Dudley and Stafford?—Yes, I know a little of Liverpool.

That was very pure?—Very pure; so pure, I believe, that Stafford is more pure than Liverpool.

You say there is a respectable constituency in Stafford now; to what extent?—A number of manufacturers and tradesmen, such as shoemakers.

You do not know the number of 10*l.* householders?—No.

Then when you say there is a very respectable constituency in Stafford, you speak without any particular knowledge?—I speak from the knowledge I have upon my canvass only.

In your canvass did you canvass Mr. Dawson, the chemist and druggist?—I do not recollect.

Do you know him?—I do not know Mr. Dawson.

[*The Witness withdrew.*

Mr. *Richard Sellers* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *R. Sellers.*

Mr. *Whateley.*] DO you live at Stafford?—I do.

Did you assist Captain Gronow in his election in the year 1835?—I did.

Did you go round for the purpose of seeing how many persons you could get to vote for Captain Gronow for money?—I did.

Did you upon that occasion offer money to many of the younger freemen?—I went round to a great many of them.

Would the younger freemen take the money to vote?—The principal of them objected to it.

In fact, did the younger freemen who had been admitted since 1832 vote for Captain Gronow, for whom money was offered, or for any of the other candidates?—The principal part of them voted for the other candidates.

How many persons can you speak to, to whom you offered money, and who refused it?—I went to most of them.

Both the old and the new burgesses?—Yes; I went round generally amongst the burgesses.

Did many of them refuse it?—A great many did.

How many do you believe?—I cannot speak to my own knowledge. I went to a great many of them, and induced them in the morning to vote.

I speak of those who refused?—A great many refused.

When you called did you state whether or not Captain Gronow had plenty of money?—I told them they would receive a present if they voted.

What did they say?—They said that they had promised Mr. Goodricke, and that they should not break their promise, but they should vote for whom they had promised.

Did you get as many as you could to vote for Captain Gronow?—I did.

Could you procure any more than those who actually did vote for him?—No, I could not. All that I went to, with the exception of those that did vote, would not vote for Captain Gronow.

And did not?—And did not.

Cross-

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Your family are all burgesses of Stafford, are they not?—With the exception of Lamech.

Is he a 10*l.* householder?—He is.

Have your family long been burgesses of Stafford?—My father has been a burgess about fifteen or sixteen years.

How often has he voted, do you know?— I cannot say; perhaps a dozen times.

How often have you voted?—About five elections.

Did you vote in the election in 1832?—I did.

Did your father vote then?—He did.

Did Lamech Sellers, your brother, vote then?—Yes, he did.

Do you happen to know whether Lamech Sellers, your brother, took a bribe for voting at that election?—I do not.

Of 8*l.*?—Not 8*l.*, I believe.

Mr. *Whateley.*] Do you know anything of his having had a bribe, to your own knowledge?—I do not.

Mr. *Austin.*] Why do you say you do not believe he took 8*l.*?—I heard that he took 2*l.* 10*s.*

From himself have you heard that?—No.

Did Sampson Sellers take a bribe upon that occasion?—I cannot say from my knowledge whether he did or did not.

You do not know whether he took 8*l.*?—No, I do not.

At the last election you say that you were employed to solicit and bribe the freemen; did you solicit the votes of Lamech Sellers and Sampson?—No, I did not; they were with me at the last election.

Was the last election the first occasion upon which you had been employed in bribing?—I had nothing to do with bribing before.

Whom did you go with?—I went with myself individually round.

That is, you went alone?—Yes.

Who were the parties canvassing the burgesses?—Mr. Bostock canvassed.

He was the principal canvasser, was not he?—Not the principal one; there were several gentlemen.

When you canvassed the burgesses, in what way did you make the promise to them?—I promised that if they would vote for Mr. Gronow they should have a present.

Did you tell them that you were authorized to pay them yourself?—No; I did not know how it was to be paid; Captain Gronow told me they would have a present.

You had no authority to conclude any particular bargain with them?—No, I had not.

Do you mean to say that when you informed some of the burgesses that they would have a present, they declined voting for you?—A great many.

Do you remember their names?—Yes; there were the Allens in particular.

Who else?—Some of the Jones's.

How many?—Two or three.

What were their names?—There was Henry Jones in particular.

Who else?—I cannot speak to their particular names.

Will you state any names that you recollect?—I recollect the Allens in particular.

How many of them?—Two or three.

What were their names?—I cannot recollect their individual names.

Do you happen to know whether any of them took bribes afterwards?—No; I believe they did not.

Do you know it?—Not to my knowledge.

All that you know is, that you made a certain communication to hem, and that they declined the offer?—Yes.

You do not know whether Mr. Bostock saw them afterwards?—I do not.

Or which way they voted?—I believe they voted for Goodricke.

Will you try and recollect what the names of the Allens were that declined receiving a bribe?—I cannot tell their Christian names; there was William Allen.

Did he decline?—Yes.

Mr. *R. Sellers.*

16 July 1863.

Did James decline?—I cannot say.

Did Thomas decline?—I cannot speak to Thomas.

Did you ask Thomas?—I cannot describe them particularly; there are a great many Allens; there are some of the Allens that did vote for Gronow, and a good many that would not.

You were not concerned in paying the money yourself?—I was not.

You were not entrusted with that?—No.

What is your station in Stafford?—I am a staymaker.

A journeyman, or do you keep a shop?—I am in partnership with my father.

How many Allens did you apply to altogether?—Three or four of them.

Are there more than three or four of them voters?—I think there are.

How many?—I cannot speak exactly.

Are there two James's?—I cannot speak to their Christian names.

Are there more than eight of them?—No, I should think not.

How many of those eight declined voting?—Three or four of them.

Did the others consent?—They did not make me any particular answer about the fact.

Then you got no particular answer from any man of the name of Allen?—No.

You are clear about that?—Yes, I am.

Do you count the Allens as persons who refused taking bribes on that occasion?—There were some that would not vote for him.

You have said that you applied to certain freemen who declined your offer; amongst those do you count the Allens?—Yes.

Whether three of those Allens took bribes afterwards you do not know?—No, I do not.

Do you know whether eight of the Allens took bribes in 1832?—No, I do not.

Then, independently of the Allens and of the Jones's, you cannot recollect the names of any of the voters you have alluded to?—Not particularly.

What did you take yourself at the last election?—Nothing.

Were not you paid for your services?—No.

Or at any former election?—No, I never was.

You never took a bribe yourself?—Not myself; I believe my father received 3*l.* 10*s.*

Did your father receive that for you?—I believe he did at Campbell's election. I voted three times for Mr. Campbell and twice for Mr. Gronow, and I never received a farthing.

Re-examined by Mr. *Whateley.*

Although you cannot recollect the names of any but the Allens and the Jones's, were there a great many others that you applied to who refused to vote for money?—I did apply to a great many.

By a Lord.] Did you state that all the Allens refused, or that some of them refused?—Some of them refused.

You do not state that all of them refused?—No.

Do you know of any bribes having been taken either by yourself or for yourself?—I never took any myself, but I believe that it is down that my father took 3*l.* 10*s.* after I had voted; but I had no knowledge of it.

How many elections do you remember at Stafford?—I remember seven or eight elections.

Is there a different opinion or feeling amongst persons in your situation of life now with respect to the taking of bribes from what there was formerly?—Undoubtedly so; there are very few men now that will take bribes.

To what is that difference of opinion owing?—It is owing to being better informed. They were bribed by gentlemen that came down that they had confidence in, and which made them think that it was no wrong to do so; for instance, Sir John Campbell, and Sir Charles Wolseley, a great Radical; at the last election he aided Mr. Gronow.

Do you mean to say that Sir Charles Wolseley bribed?—No, but he knew of it.

What has given them this new insight into the subject; upon what is the alteration in their opinion founded?—They have been talked to a good deal about it by the respectable party in the town.

And now the generality of the people in Stafford think it is wrong to take bribes?—I believe they do.

Do they think it wrong to be treated?—I cannot answer as to that.

Mr. *R. Sellers.*

16 July 1836.

You remember the last election?—Yes, I do.

There was a great deal of treating then?—There certainly was a good deal of treating.

Do you think the same sort of treating may be expected at another election?—I think not.

You think they would have the election without any treating?—I do.

Mr. *Whateley* stated, that there was some other evidence which he had been unable to procure before this morning, and he had to request the indulgence of the House to appoint another day for the remainder of the evidence.

[*The Witness was directed to withraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, that the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be adjourned till Wednesday next, at Ten o'clock; and that the Lords be summoned.

Die Mercurii, 20° *Julii* 1836.

THE order of the day being read for the further consideration and second reading of the Bill, intituled, "An Act to exclude the Borough of Stafford, in the County of Stafford, from sending Burgesses to serve in Parliament;" and for the Lords to be summoned; and for witnesses to be examined in proof of the preamble of the Bill; and for the electors of Stafford to be heard by themselves, their counsel or agents, on the matters contained in their Petition;

Counsel were called in.

Lamech Sellers was then called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Lamech Sellers.

20 July 1836.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] ARE you an elector of Stafford?—I am.

Were you so in 1832?—I was.

Did you vote at that election?—I did.

Did you receive money for your vote?—Never; I never received a halfpenny in my life.

For whom did you vote?—I voted for Captain Gronow and Mr. Blunt.

Does your name occur in any of those lists as having received money from either of the candidates?—It does, for Gronow.

Then that is not true?—It is not true; there are a great many more in the same way.

You say there are a great many more in the same way?—Yes.

A great many names entered in those lists who did not receive money?—Yes.

Do you say that of your own knowledge?—Yes.

Will you name any?—There is a friend of mine, Mr. Jones.

Is he here?—Yes; for flags and different things, he paid it out of his pocket.

Had you anything to do with the election of 1835?—I had.

Had you anything to do with Sir Charles Wolseley at that election?—I had.

What?—In the first place I went round with him canvassing. I went down in the morning, and we were going to swear in the young burgesses. They would not swear in Sir Charles Wolseley unless he was sworn in as a burgess for the borough of Stafford.

Had you any other transactions with Sir Charles Wolseley?—Yes; I went down to Manchester for him.

For what purpose?—First to swear him in as a burgess, and secondly, to cash a bill for Captain Gronow; 900 and odd pounds; nearly 1,000 *l.*

What do you mean by cashing a bill for Captain Gronow?—There was a letter of credit came down to Mr. Webb's bank, and Mr. Webb did not like to cash the bill; he did not know the parties.

Without further security?—Yes.

Did Sir Charles Wolseley indorse the cheque?—Him and the Reverend Thomas Gronow. Sir Charles Wolseley went to the bank.

Lamech Sellers.

20 July 1836.

What did Sir Charles Wolseley do in favour of Captain Gronow?—He and the Reverend Thomas Gronow went down to the bank, and he put his name on the back of the bill.

His own name?—Yes.

Mr. *Austin.*] Did you see that?—I saw him write, but I did not see the bill afterwards.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] Did you see Sir Charles Wolseley write upon that cheque?—I did.

Had you any conversation with Sir Charles Wolseley with regard to that bill?—Yes, I had, on the road from Manchester to Stafford. I told him what was the matter.

What did you tell him was the matter?—I told him that Captain Gronow had very little money, but that he had a letter of credit from a banker in London, and that Mr. Webb did not like to cash it without security.

What did Sir Charles say to that?—He said that, when he saw the letter of credit he should know what to do with it.

Did Sir Charles Wolseley go to the bank with you for any purpose connected with the letter of credit?—He did; he went both for money for himself, and with the Reverend Thomas Gronow.

You say you were engaged in the election of 1835?—I was.

Do you recollect going about the town on Sunday night and Monday morning of that election?—I do very well.

Had you any money?—I had not a very great deal; perhaps 10*l.* or 15*l.*

From whom did you receive that money?—From the Reverend Thomas Gronow.

On behalf of Captain Gronow?—Yes.

Did you offer that money to any persons?—I did, to many. Captain Gronow and the Reverend Thomas Gronow said he would rather make a present to the poor men after voting, than throw away the money in public-houses: those were the words he used.

Did you offer that money to any?—I did, to many.

On behalf of Captain Gronow?—Yes.

Were there many who refused?—Yes, a great many; the men were determined they would not take it.

Were you known to be canvassing on behalf of Captain Gronow?—Certainly.

Did you ever receive any rough treatment or language when you made an offer of this money?—I did, from several. However, Captain Gronow said he had rather give the men a little trifle than throw his money away in public-houses; that was the way of it.

Did you attend a meeting at the Vine Inn, after the election of 1835?—I did, with Mr. Blunt; he wrote a note to me to go down with him.

What was done at that meeting?—He *drawed* up a sort of a requisition; he wished me and several others to go round the town to get freemen to sign it.

What was the requisition?

Mr. *Austin.*] Have you got it?—No, I have not.

Mr. *Austin* objected to parol evidence of the requisition.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] What was the object of that meeting?—To get the freemen to sign some sort of requisition.

Did you go round to further the object of that meeting?—I did, to several; and my friend, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Seymour, and several others that I knew, who were strongly for it.

What was the purpose of your going round after that meeting?—He said, if I could get a majority of the burgesses of Stafford to sign this requisition, as they would send a Whig candidate to Stafford, he was almost certain as he could get the writ down in the course of a very few days, or a week.

That was at the time when only one member was sitting?—When only one member was sitting.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

What is your father's name?—Sampson.

Have you a brother who was here the last time the House sat on this question?—Yes; Richard Sellers.

How

Lamech Sellers.

20 July 1836.

How many other Sellers are there in Stafford?—I have another brother, but he is now living in Newcastle.

Your family have been all freemen there?—Yes.

Do you happen to know that your father took a bribe at that election of 1832?—I think not.

If your brother has said he did, your brother is wrong?—My brother never did so; he is a very different kind of young man.

If your brother has said that your father took a bribe at the election of 1832 he is wrong?—I have never had anything to do with my father. I do not live at home. I am a master tailor and clothier.

How came you to be concerned in Captain Gronow's election?—Because I understood he was a good reformer, and that was the very way I joined him. I always vote for reformers.

Are you aware that bribery has been practised in Stafford at former elections?—I have not known it at Stafford for many years.

You do not think it has been?—I cannot say that money has not been paid, but it is years back.

How many years back has it been paid; what was the last occasion on which money was paid at Stafford?—I do not know that. I only know it from hearsay. I understood Mr. Webb, the banker, paid some money for the Attorney-General, but I did not see it paid.

Do you say no money was paid?—I never saw any paid.

Do you mean to say you do not know it was paid?—I never saw it paid, and I have been concerned with the Attorney-General in all three of his elections.

You never saw any money paid?—No; in fact I never had any money transactions, nor ever interfered, neither in one way nor another, except in Captain Gronow's last election.

Do you mean to say you know nothing about bribery in Stafford?—I understood that money had been paid, but I know nothing about it.

Do you mean to say you knew nothing yourself about bribery?—I have heard what people have said. I never saw it done.

Were you at the hustings when the poll was going on at any time?—Yes; I have been at all the elections.

Did you ever see persons canvassed there and bribes offered at the hustings?—Never, in my life.

Nor in the street?—No.

Did you ever hear the price of votes by conversation in the streets at the election?—I have heard that it is frequent in all boroughs to say this and that.

Have you ever heard the price of votes talked about during the time the election was going on?—I cannot say as I ever have exactly, not straight forward.

Have you ever heard it talked about inexactly?—I will tell you what I have heard say. I will say nothing but truth. I have heard them say, if you vote for so and so you will have it, but I do not know they have ever had it.

You say Mr. Gronow preferred, in the election of 1835, giving a little money after the election, rather than to treat men at the election?—Yes.

That was the plan he preferred?—Yes.

There was a regular payment of votes?—No.

How many men do you believe there were paid by Captain Gronow at that election; were there fifty, do you believe?—There were 120, if not more than that, I thought by what the Rev. Thomas Gronow told me after the election.

Was there treating?—There might be a pint or two to the constables, but nothing more.

Was there treating at the election?—Not by our party.

Was there treating by Captain Chetwynd's party?—Not a very great deal, perhaps 400*l.* or 500*l.* or something of that kind.

You call that not much?—I should think not, among 1,200 or 1,400 men.

Was there treating by the other candidate?—There was.

Much or little?—There was much by the other two candidates, but I have seen as much at other elections.

Not much by yours?—No, there was not much by ours.

Re-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

You are a householder as well as a freeman?—Yes.

By a Lord.] You say you have seen as much treating at other elections?—I have.

Lamech Sellers.

20 July 1836.

Have you seen more at other elections?—There has been generally a very warm contest at Stafford.

That is no answer to the question?—There has been a good deal of treating at other times.

And as much the last election as the former election?—Yes, about the same as usual.

What would you call a very great deal; if all the houses were open?—They were not all of them opened.

That is no answer to the question?—Yes, I should call it a very great deal, if all the houses were open.

If all the people were drunk?—Yes.

There was not a great deal of drunkenness at the last election?—It was about as much as it was in former elections.

Just about the same as in former elections?—Yes, just about the same as in former elections.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Dean* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

William Dean.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] ARE you an elector of Stafford?—Yes.

Did you vote at the election of 1832?—Yes.

For whom did you vote?—Captain Chetwynd and Mr. Blount.

At the time you voted, did you vote under any promise or expectation of money?—No.

Do you say that positively?—Positively.

Do you know Edward Kinderdine?—Yes.

At the election of 1835, did you see Edward Kinderdine?—Yes.

Was he busy about that election?—Yes, very busy.

In whose behalf?—Captain Gronow's.

Who is Kinderdine?—He is a cutter out for Mr. Bostock.

Is he a leading man, a foreman?—It is a clicker, as we call it in the shop; I do not much understand it.

Did anything take place between Kinderdine and you at that election of 1835?—Yes.

With regard to money?—Yes.

What?—He offered me 6*l.* to vote for Captain Gronow.

Did you accept it?—No.

What did he do then, did he offer you anything else?—He offered me 7*l.*

Did you accept that?—No.

What did he say why he made that offer of 7*l.* to you?—That he would give me 7*l.* if I would vote single for Captain Gronow.

What answer did you give?—I told him if he would offer me 600*l.* or 700*l.* I would not vote for him.

Whom did you vote for at the election of 1835?—Captain Chetwynd and Mr. Goodericke.

Did you vote for them after you had this offer from Kinderdine?—Yes.

The same day?—Yes, the same day.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

You voted at the election of 1832, you say?—Yes.

You voted for Captain Chetwynd; for whom else?—For Mr. Blunt.

Do you know whether Captain Chetwynd's voters were paid at the election of 1832?—No, I do not know as they was paid.

Do you know whether Captain Chetwynd's voters were paid at the election of 1832; whether they were paid?—No, I do not know whether they were paid.

Do you know whether they were paid?—No.

Do you mean to swear that?—Yes.

Were they paid before or after the election?—After, as I understood.

Did you ever understand whether they were paid?—I heard it said where they were paid.

Where?—Down at a place called the Lion.

Who

William Dean.

20 July 1836.

Who paid them at the Lion?—I do not know.

Did you ever hear?—No, I never heard.

Will you swear that?—Yes.

Do you know Mr. John Wynne?—Yes.

Will you swear you do not know that Mr. John Wynne paid the voters?—I do not know as he paid them.

Will you swear that?—Yes.

Did you see any voters going down to the Lion?—I saw many persons passing there and back again; but I did not know what they went there for.

Do you mean to swear that you do not know what they were going to the Lion for; look at their lordships and answer that question?—I do not.

Will you swear that you did know at the time?—I did not.

What, did you not know at the time?—What they were going for?

Did you know what they were going about?—No, I did not.

Did you hear that bribery was going on?—I heard it, but I did not see it.

When you saw them going to the Lion, did you believe what they were going for; had you any belief about it?—I had no belief about it, for I could not believe unless I saw.

You had no suspicion what they were about?—No, I had not formed any suspicion particularly.

You had heard that bribery was going on?—I had.

You heard it was going on at the Lion?—I heard there was money paying there.

You saw persons going there?—I saw people passing and repassing.

And you mean to tell their lordships you had no suspicion what they were about?—I had not.

I will simply ask you whether you received 2*l.* 10*s.* yourself?—I did not receive it myself.

Who received it for you?—A man of the name of William Durn.

Re-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

When did you hear or know that William Durn had received this money for you?—Not till after I had voted.

When you saw these people passing and re-passing, was it not in the common thoroughfare, the common street?—Yes.

You were not at the Lion yourself?—No.

By a Lord.] What became of that money that William Durn received for you?—He gave it to me.

That was for your vote in 1832?—I do not know what it was for.

Upon your oath do you mean to say you do not know what it was for?—I did not expect anything at the time I voted.

That is no answer to the question; upon your oath do you mean to say you did not know what it was for?—I understood what it was for.

Did not you know what it was for?—Yes.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then Mr. *Thomas Stevenson*, was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. T. Stevenson.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] YOU were concerned in the election of 1832, we have heard?—I was.

On behalf of Captain Chetwynd?—Yes.

You were a friend of Captain Chetwynd?—I was.

We have heard that you interfered in the election as a friend of Captain Chetwynd?—You have it in evidence.

We have also heard you had something to do with the giving money to those who voted for him?—I attended at the Lion public-house, at least that which had been the house you have heard so much of, to pay on both days, I believe.

Were not those payments made for the most part to parties that had voted?—In every instance.

Were not they made in several instances by you, without any communication with the party previously?—A number were made without any communication with the parties themselves.

Mr. *T. Stevenson.*

20 July 1836.

Were those payments made by you in consequence of applications from the persons to whom they were made, or were they made in some instances voluntarily on your own part?—In one instance I paid some at the Maid's Head public-house voluntarily on my own part, three or four on one occasion, and the other instances to which I allude, it happened that perhaps one person would come, and would take the money of three, or four, or five, in some instances; the second day that was particularly the case.

Had those persons to whom the money was paid in that manner previously made any application to you, or previously had any intimation that they would receive it?—None whatever from me.

To many, you say, it was paid through friends of theirs, without any personal application on their part?—To numbers.

As far as you know, they were voluntary payments by the friends of Captain Chetwynd?—I have reason to believe since that they were entirely so.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

You say that in some cases persons were paid without communication with the parties or yourself?—Yes; I will explain how they were paid.

You will answer the questions put to you. Do you mean to say that no application was made to you before they voted?—I do.

That you did not apply to them nor they to you?—They did not apply to me, nor I to them, as far as I was concerned.

You were the person who paid the money?—Yes.

They brought tickets?—That was only at the commencement of the election.

And one person brought the tickets of two, three or more?—Yes; that was the fact at the commencement of the election.

By the time you began to leave off the payment by tickets the practice of bribery was pretty notorious in the town, was not it?—You can scarcely conceive paying money in the way that was paid, but that it was tolerably notorious.

Was it not notorious at the time you began to leave off paying by tickets?—I apprehend it was.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then Mr. *John Maspen* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *J. Maspen.*

Mr. *Whitmore.*] YOU are the mayor of Stafford this year?—I am.

Are you well acquainted with Stafford?—I am.

Are you well acquainted with the present constituency of Stafford?—I am.

Have you known that constituency long?—More than 20 years.

In your character of mayor of the town, you of course are well acquainted with the habits of the population?—I am.

From your knowledge and your experience of the place generally, and of the constituency in particular, would you say that the place has undergone an improvement of late years?

Mr. *Austin* objected to the question.

Mr. *Whitmore* was heard in support of the question. The Counsel were informed that the question might be put.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] How long have you been chief magistrate?—Since the 1st of January last.

I ask you, as to the moral conduct and the habits of the population generally, would you say there has been an improvement of late years in the town of Stafford?—I have no hesitation in saying there is a general and progressive improvement in their general habits.

Is Stafford increasing in size?—It is.

And in population?—It is.

Is it increasing more of late years than formerly?—Decidedly more.

In the number of its buildings?—Certainly.

We have heard that in fact the line of railway between Birmingham and Manchester will pass through it; is that so?—It is.

Just specify any improvement within the last few years, any plans tending to show its growing improvements?—There are many buildings, some of a public nature, erected within a few years at Stafford; a lunatic asylum has been erected.

Lighting

Mr. *John Maspen.*

20 July 1836.

Lighting the town with gas is of late date, is it not?—About six years.

What other improvements have been made of late; are there not some schools lately erected?—There have been two or three schools erected; two National Schools and a British School.

Would you say that the town of Stafford is unlike the rest of the world in respect of morality and intelligence?—I should say not.

That the march of intelligence is to be found there as well as elsewhere?—Decidedly.

Were you at Stafford during the election of 1835?—I was.

Had you been at Stafford during the previous elections?—I had.

Was the conduct of the people of the place during the election of 1835 more or less peaceable and quiet than it had been at preceding elections?—There was a marked difference at the last election; it was much more quiet and orderly.

If there were any consequences from over-drinking, they were less apparent?—Unquestionably.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

At the time that the last election took place proceedings had occurred before a Committee of the House of Commons relative to the transactions of the borough?—Yes.

That was known in Stafford?—Yes.

Have you any doubt that produced a great effect?—I have no doubt it produced some effect.

Have you any doubt that it produced considerable effect?—I have no doubt it produced some; I cannot say to what extent.

You are well acquainted with the morals of the people?—Yes.

Do not you think it produced a great effect?—I cannot say the extent of the effect.

Can you point out any other circumstances?—I think that the burgesses were not aware of the impropriety of their conduct in receiving bribes so much as they are now.

Do you think that a large body could have been ignorant of the impropriety of their conduct in receiving bribes?—I am confident of it, from my conversations with the burgesses.

Was that feeling prevalent with the more respectable burgesses?—Certainly not.

You think that the lower people were in a state of such brutish ignorance, they were not aware it was criminal to receive bribes?—That is the opinion I have, from my conversations with them.

Do you believe it?—I do believe it.

Were you acquainted with the scenes that took place during the election of 1832?—I was.

And the treating?—I was not peculiarly acquainted with the treating.

Nor bribery?—No.

You were not personally connected with it?—I was not.

You have not, in fact, any personal knowledge what scenes took place?—Except a general profligacy and disturbance in the town.

How did that profligacy and disturbance exhibit itself?—By drunkenness and noise in the town.

I ask you with respect to the bribery; you say you were not personally cognizant of bribery?—I was not.

How were you aware of the existence of bribery in 1832?—I was not aware of it myself.

Did you ever mix up yourself with the scenes of bribery at Stafford?—I never did.

At no time?—No.

You have been asked with respect to the improving state of the place; is there any manufacture carried on at Stafford beside the shoe trade?—There has been lately a large coach factory established there.

The shoe trade has gone away to Shrewsbury and Nottingham, has it not?—I understand from manufacturers the shoe trade is in a very flourishing state.

You are not concerned in the trade yourself?—No; I am well acquainted with many manufacturers.

Mr. *John Maspen.*

20 July 1836.

You do not know whether it has gone to Nottingham and Shrewsbury or not?—I do not.

Re-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

Do you know of any other reasons besides disclosures in the House of Commons which operated to make the change you witnessed at the election of 1835?—I think the burgesses were influenced by the representations made to them by the more respectable inhabitants.

They did act upon those representations?—I am sure they did, from the representation I made to many.

Do you know of any other reason that would operate upon the electors of Stafford in the year 1835?—I do not immediately recollect any others.

By a Lord.] What were these representations which were made by the respectable inhabitants to the burgesses which influenced them at the last election?—That they were illegal acts.

You say that before these disclosures in the House of Commons you believe the burgesses in general did not know it was an illegal act taking a bribe?—Yes.

You believe that?—I do, with regard to a great number of them.

Did the respectable people at Stafford at that time believe it to be an illegal and improper act?—I should say not generally.

You mean to say that the respectable people at Stafford, previous to the disclosure in the House of Commons, did not believe it to be an illegal and improper act to take money for their votes?—I should think that they did think it was an improper act.

You said just now that you believed the inferior burgesses were in such a state of ignorance they did not believe, previous to the disclosure in the House of Commons, that it was illegal or improper to take a bribe?—Yes.

You were next asked whether the respectable people at Stafford believed it to be an illegal and improper act?—I should think they did generally.

Did they take any pains to enlighten the minds of their poor and more ignorant neighbours?—In many instances I am sure they did.

But without success?—I am not aware to what extent.

Bribery was carried on up to the time of its disclosure?—I am not aware of my own knowledge.

You have no doubt of that?—I have no doubt bribery has existed at all times in Stafford.

At the last election?—Much less at the last election.

You were asked whether there were means taken by the respectable inhabitants to enlighten the minds of those who at that time believed it was not an illegal and improper act?—I have no doubt of it.

Still they went on taking bribes?—To a very small extent; many were offered bribes who would not take them, I know.

The question refers to the election of 1832, and previous elections. You stated that you believed the people were so ignorant, they did not believe it was illegal or improper to take a bribe; then you were asked whether the respectable inhabitants believed that to be the case, and whether they took pains to enlighten their poorer and more ignorant neighbours?—I have no doubt they did.

Then the people were well informed that it was illegal and improper?—I have no doubt they were, by many respectable people.

But they persevered nevertheless in taking the bribes?—I am not aware of that.

Are you not aware that bribery was common at all the elections at Stafford up to the disclosure in the House of Commons?—I do not know that.

Have you any doubt that there was bribery to a great extent at those elections?—I have no doubt there was bribery to a greater or lesser extent at every election.

You say that they were instructed long before the election of 1835 as to the impropriety of this?—Yes.

Did you see that there was a difference in their conduct at the last election, since the disclosure at the House of Commons?—I believe, at the late election, the respectable part of the constituency had been increasingly anxious to enlighten the burgesses and the poorer constituency, and that they have succeeded in proportion to their increased exertions.

Then

Mr. *John Muspen.*

20 July 1836.

Then their exertions have been very much increased since the disclosure in the House of Commons?—I think they have been gradually increasing for many years.

Do you think there was any manifest increase of them in the election of 1832?—I think the respectable constituency were gradually becoming more anxious and determined to set it down, if possible.

Was there any symptoms of that in the election of 1832?—I am not myself cognisant of any bribery in 1832.

You say there is a great improvement in the morals of the people; was not there a great deal of drunkenness in 1835?—Decidedly less than at the former elections.

All former elections, or only the last before that?—I think less than at all former elections.

You say there is a great improvement in the morals of the people of Stafford of late years?—There is much more order and decorum manifested than formerly.

Less dram-drinking?—I am not aware what kind of drinking produces the effect.

Are there fewer gin-ships?—I should say not.

Fewer beer-shops?—Certainly not fewer.

There is an increase both of gin-shops and beer-shops?—An increase of beer-shops certainly.

An increase of beer-shops and gin-shops?—I should think not, I am not aware how many there are.

Do you not believe that gin-shops and beer-shops contribute very much to the immorality of a place?—There are very few gin-shops in Stafford unconnected with public-houses.

There are a great many public-houses?—Yes.

And gin-shops are connected with them?—I am not aware of that.

Do not you, as mayor, know that?—No; I know some of them have, but not all, I should think.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then Mr. *Robert Jones* was called in; and having been sworn, was examined as follows:

Mr. *R. Jones.*

Mr. *Whitmore.*] ARE you the standing overseer of Stafford?—I am.

Have you examined those lists that are appended to the House of Commons Report?—I have.

The lists verified as delivered in by Harding and Meeson and Biddulph?—Yes.

On going over the names in those lists, do you find any persons who were not on the register in 1832?—Yes, I do.

Just point to them; turn to the beginning of Biddulph's list; have you examined the register of 1832, and compared the register with those lists?—I have.

Mention any names that are entered on that list and are not entered on the register?—Here is Charles Ash; there is no such name on the register. Here is Richard Beaumont. I find at the beginning four names are set down for two.

You mean that there are two repeated?—Yes; Robert Adams, William Adams; Robert Adams, William Adams; two brothers repeated.

Are there two Robert Adams's and two William Adams's on the register?—No; but one of each.

Is there the name of Tilculley in that list?—There is a Tilcherly; there is no such name upon the register.

There is a name of Tricherly, I believe?—Yes; there is no such name as that upon the register.

Is there the name of Snake?—I find in the list delivered in by Mr. Harding three persons of the name of Snake; there is no such name on the register.

Mr. *Austin.*] What are their Christian names?—Thomas Snake, Nathaniel Snake and Edward Snake.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] Will you return again to Biddulph's list, and see if there is any person of the name of Melton there?—Joseph Melton.

Is there any such name as that upon the register?—No.

Look at the first list, Harding's, again; William Meynibs; is there any such name as that?—No; there is not.

Mr. R. Jones.

20 July 1836.

Are there others?—Yes; in Mr. Harding's list; a man of the name of Francis Mayton; here is a Joseph Milsbie; there is a John Pacton; there is no such name upon the register.

Is there any one of the name of Bagwell?—I find a James Barrell; there is no such name; there is a John Bagwell.

Look at Harding's list; is there a person of the name of Bularton?—John Bularton; there is no such name as that.

Is there the name of Creer in Biddulph's list?—There is Robert Creer, senior; there is no such name upon the register.

Is there the name of George Chattel in the same list?—Yes; there is no such name as that.

In Harding's list, is there the name of James Fishie?—Yes; there is no such name in the register. I find in the same letter William Finsley; there is no such name as that upon the list. I find in the same Charles Frantz; there is no such name as that upon the register.

Do you find the name of Gallimin in Biddulph's list?—Yes; there is no such name as that. I find the name of William Griffin in the same list.

Is there the name of Morley in Biddulph's list?—Yes, William Morley; there is no such name as that on the register.

Is there a Matthews there?—Edward Matthews.

Is that name upon the register?—I believe not.

Is there the name of Parker in Harding's list?—Here are George Parker and William Parker.

Is either of those names on the register?—I believe they are both on it.

You say there are three Snakes?—Yes.

Is there the name of Joseph Silvester in Biddulph's list?—Yes.

Is there such a name as that upon the register?—No.

In the same list, is there the name of Stomer?—Yes, Edward Stomer and William Stomer.

Is either of those on the register?—No, neither.

Is there the name of Tool?—There is James Tool; he is not on the register.

Is there the name of Till also?—Yes, Thomas Till, senior; Francis Till, Thomas Till, junior; and John Till, Cross Keys.

None of them are on the register?—None.

Did you mention two persons of the name of Tool?—No, only one.

Which list have you got?—Biddulph's; there is a Toote, John Snagal.

Is there any such person?—No, there is not such a person.

Is there a Trigge?—There is a Trigger in Biddulph's list.

Look at Harding's list?—There is Thomas Trigge.

Do you find him in the register?—No.

Turn to Biddulph's list, Wentbrook?—There are three of them, John, Samuel and Thomas. Wetherhog, John; I do not find him on the register. William Welheren; he is not on the register. Wildis, John; he is not on the register.

Is there a Workington?—Here is James Workington on Mr. Harding's list, not on the register.

Look at Meeson's list; is there any one of the name of Wettow there?—There is the name of George Wettow; he is not on the register.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin*.

Are you the overseer?—Yes, I am.

Did you ever make out lists for the register?—Of the householders I do.

How many times have you done it?—Twice, two years.

You did not make out the lists for the year 1832?—No, I did not.

Are you acquainted with the names upon the present register?—I am, very well.

And the register before?—Yes, the lists I made out myself I can speak to.

You are well acquainted with them, are you not?—I am well acquainted with the inhabitants.

Did there happen to be any mistakes in making out their lists?—No, I have not.

Did not mistakes occur which were corrected by the barrister?—No, I believe not; if there were any, it was by the printer, not by me.

There were no errors corrected by the barrister made by the printer?—That I cannot say.

You were at the court during the registration?—Yes.

Do

Mr. *R. Jones.*

20 July 1836.

Do not you recollect whether there was any error made by the printer corrected by the barrister?—No, I think the printer's register was very correct.

You are perfectly well acquainted with the names?—Yes.

Do you know Mr. Charles Ash?—He does not belong to my province; he belongs to Forebridge.

Do you know Mr. Charles Ash?—There is a Charles Ash, I know the name; but I am not overseer of that parish.

Is he a householder?—He is, I believe.

Upon the register?—Yes.

When you said that Charles Ash was not upon this register for 1832, you did not mean to say that he was not the same person as Charles Ash?—I cannot say that.

When did you look through these lists and register, with a view to giving this evidence?—I have looked through them frequently some few days back.

Did you, when you looked through the register and the lists with that view, look into the register to find what names correspond with the names you have just given to their lordships, though they were not exactly spelt the same?—Where I find names upon the register, my own making out, correct, I can speak to them; as to those names, I cannot answer for those names at all.

That is no answer to the question. When you examined the register and the lists, for the purpose of taking out those names you have read to their lordships, did you again examine the register for the purpose of finding what names were like them?—Yes, I did do so, to be sure.

You have picked out the names of Thomas Snake, Nathaniel Snake, and Edward Snake, from the list of Biddulph or Meeson, and you have told their lordships those names were not upon the register?—I have.

Did you find any names upon the register with a similar Christian name corresponding nearly with it?—I find Snapes upon the register.

Did you find Thomas Snape upon the register?—Yes.

Did you find Nathaniel Snape upon the register?—Yes.

Did you find Edward Snape upon the register?—Yes.

Why did you not tell their lordships you did find those three Snapes upon the register when you were asked the question? You were asked whether there were three Snakes upon the register; why did not you say that there were three Snapes, with the difference only of a *k* or a *p*, upon the register?—There were other Snapes there.

You saw that upon the register?—Yes; but I did not think those were the register belonging to these men.

Why did you not tell their lordships you found those names upon the register?—I did find those names upon the register.

Then why did you not tell that to their lordships? It did not occur to you that there was either a miswriting or a misprint?—It did occur to me.

Then why did you not tell that to their lordships?—Because I was not asked the qustion.

We will go to the next name, Joseph Melton. Did you find any name corresponding with that?—No, I did not.

Did you find the name of Joseph Mellor, a freeman?—I did.

You find the name of Meynibs?—I will very easily explain that; that is the name of Meddings.

Do you find the name of William Meyricks, a freeman, upon the register?—Yes, there is that name upon the register.

Francis Mayton, you say, is not upon the register; will you explain the name by one which is upon the register?—There is no such name as that; there was Francis Machin.

Will you explain Joseph Millsbie?—The construction I put upon that is Joseph Mills, the name above.

Can you explain who John Pacton is?—That I cannot explain.

Can you explain James Borrell?—No, I cannot.

John Bullerton?—That I cannot explain.

Is there a John Boulton upon the register?—No, not to my knowledge.

Then you have not looked at the register; is not there the name there?—Yes, I beg your pardon, it is there; I had forgotten it. He is dead now.

How do you explain Thomas Trigge?—The construction I put upon it was Trigger, perhaps.

Mr. *R. Jones.*

20 July 1836.

The *r* happened to be lost?—Yes.

How do you explain Toole, James. Do you find Toole, James, upon the list?—Yes.

There were three Tills, William, Thomas and John. I have no doubt you can explain them: the *e* ought to have been an *l*, ought it not?—There are three Tills upon the register.

And there are three Tills on the list?—Yes.

Do not the Christian names of the Tills and the Tiles correspond?—They do.

Robert Creer; how do you explain that? There is a very easy explanation for that; there is a Robert Crew, but I cannot say that that is the same person.

You did not give him a bribe?—No, I did not.

How do you explain the case of Chattel?—I find George Chatten on the register.

James Fishie; how do you explain that?—There is a James Fisher upon the register.

There is William Finsley, whose name is on the register, you say?—There is William Finlon; I do not know whether that is the same.

Explain to me Charles Franty?—Charles Frantz.

Thomas Gallimin?—There is a Thomas Gallimore.

William Guffir?—There is a William Guffin.

William Moreley; what do you take him to be?—I am sure I cannot tell; there is a William Moseley.

The difference is between the *r* and the *s*?—Yes.

What is Edward Mathews, do you think?—I do not know that there is such a name.

Is there an Edward Mather?—Yes.

Joseph Sylvester; it ought to be James, ought it not?—There is a James.

Stomer, Richard; and Stoner, William?—There is Stoner, William; and Stoner, Richard, upon the register.

There are three Wentbrooks, as to whom you answered that they were not upon the register; who are upon the register with the same Christian name?—John Westbrook, Samuel Westbrook and Thomas Westbrook.

The next is John Wetherhog; who is he?—That John Wetherhog I take to be John Wetherall: he is not upon the register at all.

He was in 1832, was he not?—No; there is a William Wetherall; but I believe that John is not upon the register.

Is there a John Wetherall in the place?—He is upon the register now, but he was not a voter; he was out of town then.

Was William Wetherall a freeman?—Yes, he was upon the register.

William Welheren?—There is William Wetherall; I cannot say further than that.

John Wildis?—There is a John Wildig.

James Workington; what is his real name?—I do not know what his real name is; there is a James Worthington.

George Welton; what do you take his name to be?—I cannot explain that.

Is not there a Welton on the register?—I do not know from recollection whether there is or not.

Here is the name upon the register?—I was not aware of that.

There is the end of your list?—No; there is a Thomas Tilcherlay.

Do not you know there is a Thomas Tindersley upon the register?—Yes.

There is a name I find on Mr. Harding's list, which has not been asked by anybody; and that is Robert Jones?—That is me.

On Harding's list?—Yes.

There is something that looks like 10*l.* at the of it?—No, it is 12*l.*

Do you wish to give any explanation of that?—I received that from Mr. Harding for labour and materials. I was ordered to prepare two flags for him, and decorate the chair.

What is the meaning of M. Painter at the end of that?—I know nothing about that.

What is the 12*l.* you spoke of?—That is for labour.

There appears to be another Robert Jones, Monday, 12 *l.*; did not the whole family of the Jones's receive 91*l.* 10*s.* at that election?—I do not know; I did not see them receive any.

You can speak only to that one 12 *l.*?—Yes.

There

There is William Jones, which has 10*l.* against him; is that a relation of yours?—That is William Jones, a son of mine. Mr. *R. Jones.*

And Thomas Jones, 7*l.*; is he a relation of yours?—A son of mine. 20 July 1836.

And Robert Jones also, with 10*l.* against it?—Yes, that is a son of mine.

Have you talked to them about this?—Yes, frequently.

Are they up here?—No.

Then do not give us the conversation. What are you yourself?—I am a master tailor and clothier.

Were you a constable?—I am now.

Who appointed you constable?—The watch committee.

The watch committee of the new town council?—Yes.

Were you concerned in these elections in former times?—No; I never had to do with elections, except being employed to prepare flags and decorate the chairs; I employed the women to do it.

You were not engaged in the bribing committees?—Not at all; I did not know there were any committees.

Were you engaged about the bribing in any way?—Not at all.

You were not conscious that bribing took place in Stafford?—Oh, yes, I heard of it plenty of times.

There is one you have not cleared up; you do not find James Bonell; here is James Bonell on the register?—Yes, there is James Bonell.

Re-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

You are a tailor and clothier, are you not?—Yes.

It was in that capacity you were employed, and received this 12*l.*?—Yes.

Not for your vote?—No; certainly not.

In clearing up the difficulties of those names, have not you employed rather a wild imagination of yours; for instance, the name of Wetherall stands for Wetherhog or Wetheren?—Yes; I see there are those names.

Your suggestion of Wetherall was applied to Wetherhog as well as to Wetheren?—I mentioned the name, but I cannot say that it applied to those two names.

That was conjecture, if I might so call it, fitting both equally well?—Yes.

That principle of yours you have acted on in all these suggestion?—I have.

You have taken the nearest name you could find, without knowing whether it was the actual name intended?—Yes.

You suggested a Finlow for Frinsley; those two names differ from each other?—Yes.

What is the name you have on the register?—Finsley.

That that stood for that name, that you see upon this list?—Yes; senior and junior.

You made a suggestion that this Meynibs was Meddings, then the name of Meddings is entered twice in this list?—Yes, they are many entered twice in this list; I could point them out if it were necessary.

How many double entries are there upon the whole?—George Banks and George Banks; there is but one George Banks in the town.

Mention others where you are certain that they are not both in the register?—James Smith, Market-place, and James Smith, Market-place, again; there is but one; here is Richard Salt twice; here is George Wood twice over; there is but one George Wood; John Collier; here are John Bladon and John Bladon; there is only one of that name.

Mr. *Austin.*] You are mistaken, there are two John Bladons in the register?—There is a Thomas Bladon and a John Bladon, I am not aware of more than one John on the register.

It appeared on inspection that there were two John Bladons on the register.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then Mr. *Edwin Bostock* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

Mr. *Whitmore.*] WERE you engaged in the election of 1835?—Yes, I was. Mr. *E. Bostock.*

In whose interest were you?—Captain Gronow's.

Is William Grattidge one of your workmen?—Yes, or Gratrix, I cannot say which.

Mr. *E. Bostock.*

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For whom did you vote?—For Captain Gronow and Sir Charles Wolseley.

Do you know for whom Grattidge voted?—For Goodricke only, I believe.

Was it known in Stafford early in that election, that money was offered or given to persons who would vote for Captain Gronow?—Not early in the election, I should say.

When was it known?—I should imagine not till the morning of the poll.

As it became known, did you apply to the voters to vote for Captain Gronow?—Yes, I did.

Freemen?—Yes, freemen and householders.

Were you successful?—Yes, in some instances.

Were you unsuccessful in others?—Yes, a good many, of course.

I do not know whether you succeeded with many persons?—No, I think I did not.

This took place after the matter became notorious?—Yes; it was the general understanding that money was given for Captain Gronow.

Did you employ Grattidge for any purpose at that election?—I wished to employ him, as he ostensibly was employed.

How do you mean by ostensibly?—He pretended to be employed on my account.

Do you mean to say that he went about in your name?—No, I do not believe he did.

How do you mean that he was employed ostensibly on your account?—I wished him to influence several voters that he was acquainted with.

Did you instruct him to do so?—I did.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Then *William Grattidge* was called in; and having been sworn, was Examined as follows:

William Grattidge.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] IN the year 1835 were you one of Mr. Edwin Bostock's workmen?—Yes.

Were you employed by him for any purpose at that election?—No, he sent for me on the Saturday.

Did he attempt to employ you?—Yes.

What was the employment he attempted to give you?—He said he had heard I had a list of twelve doorkeepers, which I had, and he asked if I thought they would vote for Captain Gronow; I told him I could not say till such time as I had seen them; but if he would allow me half an hour or an hour, I would go and consult them, and bring him word whether they would or not.

Did you canvass them for Captain Gronow?—Yes.

In what way did you try to persuade them to vote for Captain Gronow?—I axed them all; I could mention all the names if it is wished, whether they would vote for Captain Gronow for some money, and they refused.

The whole twelve?—Yes, I could mention all the names if it is wished.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Were they doorkeepers, do you say?—Yes.

Paid as such?—Yes.

Who paid them as such?—Mr. Holyoake Goodricke.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] Do you know what they received as doorkeepers?—Yes, I paid them.

What?—Five shillings a day.

By a Lord.] How many days?—Six days.

At the election of 1835?—And at Mr. Goodricke's election Mr. Painter paid me money; he paid me 11*l.* for twelve men for doorkeepers at 5*s.* a day.

You voted for Mr. Goodricke?—I did; Mr. Painter sent to ask me to come, and he said we were not to receive anything, only 5*s.* a day for doorkeeping.

Were you one of the twelve?—Yes.

There were not twelve besides you?—No, there were eleven besides me; there were twelve altogether.

In what way did you consult with yourself about taking money?—I would not take money but for doorkeeping.

You talked of consulting twelve what they said about it, and you were one of the twelve?—Yes.

You

William Grattridge.
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You consulted with yourself?—Yes.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] You voted for Goodricke?—Yes, and I voted for Mr. Campbell three times; I plumped him twice, and voted once for him and Mr. Benson.

By a Lord.] What doors did the doorkeepers open; how long did the election last?—I believe nine days; if we had our rights we should have had three days more doorkeeping; there were three days we were not paid.

You opened doors for nine days?—Yes.

How long did the election last, the polling?—Two days.

What were the doors you opened the other seven days?—At the Swan Inn, sometimes at one door and sometimes at another, to keep the crowd out of the inn.

The inn door?—Yes, different doors, sometimes at the kitchen door, sometimes at the parlour door, sometimes at the room door up stairs.

Did you sometimes go into the kitchen and eat there?—Yes, the doorkeepers had their meat there.

At whose expense?—I do not know that.

Not at your own expense?—Oh, no.

Did you not drink too?—No, there was not much drink stirring at that election.

No so much as you could have wished there had been?—No, not so much as there had been at former elections; there was more of it at each Campbell election.

The Stafford ale is good ale?—Yes.

Who told you to bring up Campbell's election every time?—Nobody.

Do you know Mr. Flint?—Yes.

Did he tell you to bring up Campbell's election?—No, he never mentioned Campbell's election to me, upon my oath.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] When did you come up?—This morning; I was wet through when I did come.

I believe you are dry now?—Yes, I am dry both inside and out.

By a Lord.] You are wet inside perhaps?—No, that is what I am short of.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *Whitmore* stated that he was ready to produce evidence of the present state of the town of Stafford and of the constituency, if their lordships thought the evidence relevant to the inquiry.

The Counsel were informed that that did not appear relevant to the present inquiry.

Then Mr. *Charles Flint* was again called in, and further Examined as follows:

Mr. C. Flint.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] IT is needless at this stage of the inquiry to ask you whether you are the town clerk of Stafford?—I am.

In 1835 were you the professional agent for Sir Francis Goodricke?—I was.

Will you, just as shortly as you can, state under what circumstances he was introduced to the borough?—I will; Mr. Walker inquired from Mr. Painter.

Mr. *Austin.*] Were you present?—I am stating now Mr. Painter's communication with me.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] Begin with your own communication?—Mr. Painter asked me whether there was a probability of the return of a candidate for Stafford.

That is the Mr. Painter we have heard of?—Yes, who is now dead; he asked me whether there was a probability of the return of a candidate for Stafford; I told him it depended upon his principles.

Mr. Painter made an application to you as to the chance of the success of a candidate of the principles which you profess?—Yes.

You have had a good deal to do with elections at Stafford?—I have been in three at Stafford and three at Newcastle.

You have already told us on a former day, that you have considerable influence, from particular circumstances, over a large body of voters?—I am on very intimate terms with a large body of voters, and I have, I conceive, considerable influence with them.

Did Mr. Painter address himself to you as having that influence?—He did.

He applied to you on behalf of Mr. Goodricke?—He told me so.

Mr. *C. Flint.*

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Was Mr. Goodricke connected with the borough?—Mr. Goodricke was well known in the county, and connected with it; he was a particular friend of Mr. Gifford.

In what character was he introduced into the borough?—He was introduced as a Conservative.

You say he was a friend of Mr. Gifford?—Yes, Mr. Charles Gifford, his brother, accompanied him on his coming into the borough.

Was that a circumstance likely to conduce to his success?—Greatly so.

Did you superintend his canvass and election?—I did; I had the whole conduct and management of it daily under my direction and approval.

What was the ground upon which you recommended Mr. Goodricke to the electors, and exerted yourself on his behalf?—On the ground that he was a Conservative, and that he was a gentleman of rank and station well known in the county.

Did you also manage the pecuniary part of the election?—I did not; I had no money, but I was cognizant of its appropriation.

You know the appropriation of the money given on behalf of Mr. Goodricke?—Yes; from time to time.

As far as you know of the appropriation of money in the election of which you were the managing person, was there any person paid with a view to procuring his vote?—Certainly not; the money matters went through the hands of Mr. Painter, and he consulted me from time to time as the election went on.

Mr. Painter is dead?—Yes; I believe nothing was done without first consulting me; I had all the conduct of the election.

Was any money promised in the course of the canvass?—Certainly not.

Mr. *Austin.*] By you, you mean?—No, nor by Mr. Goodricke; nor the persons who attended on the canvass.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] Was there any other person who conducted the canvass for Mr. Goodricke except yourself?—No.

You were the principal person engaged in the conduct of that election?—Certainly; I kept the canvass book, and made all the arrangements as to the canvass, and every thing of that kind.

And the direction of all the measures connected with the election was with you?—Certainly; the whole was reposed in me.

As far as you know, the matter being under your control, was any money paid for votes at that election?—No, certainly not.

You say you have been engaged in former elections, how many for the borough?—I have been engaged at two former elections for the borough of Stafford.

Have you been engaged in county elections also?—I have been engaged twice for the county, and for three other elections at Newcastle.

Have you been engaged in canvassing the electors on those former elections?—Certainly, it was my duty to do so.

Were your applications for votes on your canvass generally on the last occasion as successful as on former occasions?—Yes.

Were the the votes promised and given as readily?—They were very readily promised and given. Mr. Goodricke was very popular the very moment he entered the town.

Were his principles known as soon as he came to the town?—Yes; he declared them.

Who was at the head of the poll at the beginning of the election?—I believe after five or ten minutes Mr. Goodricke was at the head of the poll, and continued so till the close of the election.

You, of course, saw a good deal of the conduct of the people of Stafford at the last election as well as former elections?—I did.

As far as their conduct fell under your observation, was there more or less drunkenness than there had been on former occasions?—I never saw a more quiet and peaceable election at Stafford in my life than on the last occasion, and it is my decided opinion that there was less drunkenness at the last election at Stafford than on any occasions preceding.

You say you have been at Newcastle also?—I have; and I believe I once saw an election for Coventry.

Have you looked over a list put in by Mr. Herford, of persons receiving money for Captain Gronow?—I have.

What

What class in life are they?—They are principally the working class of men; poor men with large families.

Do you know how they were treated by others in the place after they had so voted for Captain Gronow?—They were scouted for some time after the election, and treated with a great degree of contempt. I myself heard them shouted after in the streets soon after the election.

Are you acquainted with the extent of the manufacture of Stafford?—No, I am not sufficiently to give an opinion; there are some manufacturers here who can give a much better opinion than I can.

Do you know what is the population of Stafford?—The population of the new and old borough I believe to be about 10,000.

The trade is in shoes?—In ladies' light wear. I can only speak from notoriety. There are manufacturers here who can speak better than I can.

Is that peculiar to Stafford?—It carries on, I believe, the largest trade of that description of any town in England; it is peculiar to Stafford.

Is there any trade of the same description carried on any where else in Staffordshire?—Certainly not. I believe Northampton is a large shoe place, but I understand that is in men's wear, and not in the ladies'.

What are the nearest boroughs to Stafford?—Wolverhampton, Newcastle, Lichfield and Walsal; Dudley is further than Wolverhampton; Shrewsbury is 33 miles.

Which is the nearest of them?—Newcastle and Wolverhampton, I think, are at equal distances, 16 miles each.

Their manufactures are of a different kind?—Yes.

What are their manufactures?—Quite different; Newcastle is hat manufactory; Wolverhampton, locks and iron ware; Walsal, saddler's ironmongery, and in the iron trade.

Is the town of Stafford generally in an improving state as a town?—Decidedly so.

Will you state some of the improvements which denote its increasing prosperity?—There are several public schools; one opened last year, and another the year before. There are a good many new buildings going forward in the borough at this moment; a line of railway touches the town at two points, and it is anticipated that there will be considerable buildings upon that line.

Do you know whether there is a new church in contemplation?—There is; it has been talked of for half a year, and I believe is about to be commenced.

From what you know of the morals and habits of the people of Stafford generally, would you say they had been improved of late years?—Decidedly so.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Had you not, some time ago, a party of freemen who were called the Rough Fleet?—Yes; there are some every year.

They were a very rough part of the freemen?—Very noisy.

A very disreputable part of the freemen?—I cannot call them disreputable; they were noisy working men.

Who received bribes at elections?—There is no doubt of their receiving bribes at elections.

Were you employed as attorney for the Rough Fleet?—No; I was employed as attorney for the general body of the freemen.

Was that for or against the Rough Fleet?—They were a part of the general body of the freemen.

Did you not communicate with the Rough Fleet on that occasion?—I communicated with the body generally.

Did you not also communicate with that club called the Rough Fleet?—There is no club of the Rough Fleet that I know of, nor has been in Stafford.

Did you not communicate with the Rough Fleet in some shape?—I communicated with the general body of which they were a part, but not otherwise.

They were among your clients upon that occasion?—They were part of the general body for whom I was concerned.

For whom do you appear now; who gave you instructions to appear here?—I understood I was appointed by the House to defend the borough.

Who gave you instructions in the town of Stafford to defend those people at the bar of the House; how came you to come up; you were before the

Mr. *C. Flint.*

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House before you were appointed to defend?—The council of the borough of Stafford and the freemen generally.

In what way did you receive your mandate from the freemen generally?—There was a petition signed by them.

That is the petition of householders?—They were householders as well; I believe it to be a general petition.

Signed by 300 of the freemen?—I cannot state the number of freemen.

You did not receive your authority from the bulk of the freemen whom you say you represent here?—By that petition.

In what way; was there a meeting of the freemen?—I believe not.

In what way were you appointed?—It was their general wish that I should do so; that petition was delivered to me for the purpose of being presented to this House.

How was that general wish expressed that you should attend here?—I am not cognizant at this moment of the language of the petition, but I believe that the petition states something of that kind on the face of it.

Who handed you the petition?—The petition lay part of the time at my office for signature.

Do you mean to say you were appointed, or is it not the fact that you drew that petition yourself and gave notice that it lay for signature at your office?—Mr. Whateley drew that petition.

As your counsel?—Yes, upon their instructions; Mr. Whateley drew that petition by the wish of the great body of the freemen and householders of the town.

Who sent instructions to Mr. Whateley?—He had communication with a great number of persons in Stafford independent of my intervention.

If you did not get that petition prepared, who gave the instructions to Mr. Whateley?—There were many persons communicated with Mr. Whateley; I communicated with him with others.

Did you not give him instructions to prepare that petition?—I was with him for that purpose, but by the direction of the great body of the town.

Was there any other attorney present but youself?—No.

I want to know by what authority you and the persons with you directed that petition to be prepared?—By the general wish of the town.

How expressed?—There was no public meeting, but it was expressed generally all over the town.

In what manner?—I was applied to by numbers to do so.

By individual freemen?—Yes; I considered, too, that it was my duty, as town clerk, to protect their franchises and privileges.

By any person whose name is not signed to that petition?—I cannot state that.

You will not state that any person applied to you whose name is not signed to that petition?—I cannot state that.

Do you know the number of names signed to that petition?—No; I do not.

Do you know whether it is 300?—No; they have subsequently signed another petition, when there was a question whether I should conduct this case or it should go into other hands; there is a petition signed by Mr. Salt, the magistrate, and the bankers, and all the persons of respectability and station in the town.

Where is that petition?—I have it in London.

It has not been presented?—No, it was not necessary; and I also brought a petition of the council to meet that state of the case, in case there should be any further dispute about it.

You were elected by the new town council?—I was.

You have told us that application was made to you on the part of Mr. Goodricke by Mr. Painter?—Yes, that was so.

Application was made to you on behalf of Mr. Goodricke as entertaining Tory principles?—Mr. Painter's object in applying to me was, because he thought I had influence with the burgesses; he knew my principles very well, for he was an intimate friend of mine.

Was application made to you because you were supposed to entertain Tory principles?—Yes.

Those were your principles?—Yes.

Were you engaged in Mr. Beaumont's election?—Yes.

In Mr. Campbell's election?—Yes, the year preceding.

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You have told us of your cognizance of no mal-appropriation of money at the last election; were you cognizant of the mal-appropriation of money at Mr. Beaumont's election?—I knew of it certainly; it was known to the whole town.

Were you acquainted with the details?—No, I was not; I stated before that I had no communication with the parties who conducted the arrangements.

So that at the time you were not cognizant of the appropriation of the money?—It was known to all the town.

You were not personally cognizant of the bribery at that election, or of the bribes given?—No; I was not.

Did you give direction for bribes to be given?—No.

When you say you knew it was going on, you knew it from report?—It was known all over the town.

You knew it from report?—Yes; I did.

Had you any personal means of knowing it; were you concerned in the malpractices yourself?—No, certainly not.

Were you concerned in giving money at Mr. Campbell's election?—Mr. Campbell gave no money in that election in which I was concerned for him, not a shilling.

So far as you know?—No; it was notorious he would not; he declared in 1826, he would not give a shilling if it would gain his election.

Were you concerned in the year 1830 for him?—No, I was not.

In the year 1831?—No; I was not in the town at that time.

Were you present at public-houses during the last election?—Yes.

In what capacity were you present then?—I went round canvassing.

How much money was spent there you do not know?—That I cannot state.

You did not supply the money, I suppose?—Certainly not.

You did not supply the money for Mr. Goodricke's treating at the last election?—No.

You mentioned the name of Mr. Painter who applied to you, do not you know that he was engaged in former elections?—Yes.

Was not he engaged in the management of the corrupt proceedings in those elections?—I was at that time conducting an election at Newcastle.

At any former elections?—The first election I knew him engaged in was on the part of Mr. Benson in 1826; I was at that time opposing Mr. Benson for Mr. Campbell.

Was he not engaged in the subsequent election of Captain Chetwynd?—Certainly not for Captain Chetwynd.

The election at which Captain Chetwynd was a candidate?—In 1830, 1831, and 1832, I was at Newcastle conducting the elections; I was not in Stafford at all.

Do not you know that Mr. Painter was concerned in the elections at Stafford?—I know it from report.

And that he was concerned in the corrupt management of those elections?—Yes.

That is the Mr. Painter who applied to you for Mr. Goodricke?—Yes; it must be obvious I knew nothing of it, because at those elections I was not in the town.

Mr. Painter was an intimate friend of yours?—Yes, he was.

Re-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

With regard to the expenses of the election of 1835, do you know what the appropriation of the money was?—If the House will allow me to look at the accounts before them, I can state it. I have not seen them since they were delivered in. I paid a portion of the legitimate expenses of the election myself.

To what amount?—I cannot state without the documents.

Did you hear the evidence given as to the appropriation in treating?—I did; Mr. Walker's evidence.

Were you cognizant of that appropriation before?—I did not pay any of the money myself for treating; but I was quite aware that there was treating.

You say there was a repute of corruption at former elections; was there such a general impression as to corruption in 1835, that the repute was quite the contrary?—Certainly.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

Mr. *E. Herford.*

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Then Mr. *Edward Herford* is called in; and having been sworn, is examined as follows:

Mr. *Austin.*] DO you produce an analysis of the register of persons entitled to vote for persons to serve in Parliament for the year 1836?—I do.

Does that list contain a copy of the register?—I believe it does.

How was it made?—It was copied by a clerk.

From the original register?—Yes.

Did you examine it?—No, I did not.

That list contains three other colums?—Yes.

What is the second column?—The second column contains references to the names which appear in the three books respectively kept by Mr. Marson and Mr. Webb, in the election for the year 1831.

Did you make those entries?—I made those entries myself from the originals, looking at the originals; also from copies of the originals, one of which I had examined myself; one of which will be proved by a clerk who is in attendance.

What does the third column mean?—That contains similar references to the names in the lists kept by Mr. Meeson, Mr. Biddulph, and Mr. Harding, the printed list in the Commons Report, which are reprinted in the evidence given before their lordships on the present occasion. The next column contains similar references to the book kept by Mr. Robert Cook in Gronow's election for 1835. I have taken them from the printed evidence.

You have collated them with the originals?—There appear to be some misprints in the evidence as printed from the book.

Did you thereupon collate them with the original?—Yes, and I found there several names which did not correspond with the printed evidence, did correspond with the original book deposited in the house.

You compared them with the original book?—I did.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Whitmore.*

I do not understand you to say you are personally acquainted with the names on the register of 1836, you do not know what persons those names represent?—No, I am not acquainted with Stafford at all.

You are unable to say whether William Allen, who stands on the register of 1836, is the William Allen who is found voting in the election of 1831; you have not the means of identifying him?—No, certainly not.

That is the case throughout the whole list?—Certainly.

There may be the same names without being the same persons?—Possibly.

With regard to the second column, what did you make out that column from?—From two books which are copies of the books deposited in the house; one of them being a memorandum book kept by Mr. Charles Webb, the other book a memorandum book kept by Mr. John Marson.

You say there was a third copy, that was by somebody else?—Those are the copies, one of which I compared myself with the original, Mr. Marson's list.

You made out this in part from the list which you so compared with Mr. Marson's, and in part from another?—I will state how I took it: I took each book, and referring to each name, ascertained, by referring to the alphabetical list, whether that name was in the alphabetical list; if it was I marked it with the word "bribed" and an initial letter indicating the book, and the other book in the same way.

You took all the names you found in those books put in by Marson, with reference to the sums paid, on finding that they were entered in those books, whatever names occurred in that list; did you take all the names indiscriminately that occurred in those lists handed in by Marson, or did you make any selection?—Every name I found in this book, and the others I noted.

You noted down every name you found in those two lists?—Yes, I think I did; there are some entries previously which appear to be different items for sundry accounts which I took no notes of; I began with what appeared afterwards where the entries were most uniform.

You took down those names which had no sums of money attached to them as well as those which had?—Yes.

In

Mr. *E. Herford.*

20 July 1836.

In point of fact, the lists as handed in by Marson and by Webb you copied, without selection, from the first beginning of the names to the end?—Yes.

In the election of 1835, do you know how many names you have entered as having received money from Gronow?—Between 160 and 170, I think.

You have not taken the whole number of names handed in?—No, I have not; I could not identify twenty or thirty.

You have deducted those who were not to be found on the register at all?—Certainly.

Have you deducted the names which are entered twice?—Some of those which I thought were entered twice, I afterwards found, by referring to the register, were in fact two different electors.

How many have you deducted from the poll-book, handed in by Cook, and copied by yourself?—I have not counted them.

Can you state where about?—I will count them; I find that I have put a mark against the names of 187 of those: I take it there is some doubt about the identity of ten, and to those ten I have put a query; but I must state that the comparison to which I gave evidence upon a former occasion was a comparison with the poll-book, the present comparison is with the register: the only way in which I can account for the variation is, that the person may have received a bribe, and afterwards voted the other way or not voted at all; so that the result is that 187 appear to be bribed for Mr. Gronow, of which there appears to be some doubt as to the identity of ten.

Do you mean to say the doubts you entertained in your last examination some weeks ago have been removed as to the larger number; you have removed your doubts about forty or fifty?—There were no doubts about forty or fifty; there was a slight variation, for instance, the name of Birtell spelt *tell* there instead of *tle*.

Comparing the number of those who actually voted, whose names appear upon the poll, with the number of those handed in by you, is there any difference in the result from the result as stated by you in your first examination?—There appears to be a little difference; there are some in this list where I cannot identify with the names upon the register that I can identify with the names upon the poll-book.

Can you say how many?—No; I cannot state exactly, not having collated it with reference to that particular point. I should state, perhaps, that it was intended, I believe, in the first instance to have given the poll in this book, but it was found impossible to do so on account of the great time it took. A very great majority of names in the column No. 3, I have actually compared with the poll-book, and found that the bribes they appear to have received correspond with the votes which they gave as they appear upon the poll-book.

Of those entered here under the column of 1835, how many names are there upon the register that are not upon the poll-book; how many are there stated to have received money who are upon the register, but who did not poll?—I have no means of speaking to that now.

You made your first comparison with the poll-book; you made this with the register, and mentioned the two comparisons as making a difference. What is the amount of that difference, is it ten or twenty?—I should think ten would be the outside; I have no hesitation in saying that ten would be the outside.

Mr. *Whitmore* submitted that there ought to be proof by some persons who knew the town that the persons referred to were the individuals whose names appeared upon the former lists.

Mr. *Austin* stated that he did not consider the paper as necessarily importing that the individuals were the same, but that the names corresponded.

Counsel were informed that the House saw no objection to the reception of the analysis offered.

[*The same was delivered in and read, and is as follows:*]

Mr. *E. Herford.*

20 June 1836.

Stafford Borough Disfranchisement Bill.

(Lords, Session 1836.)

ANALYSIS of the REGISTER of Persons entitled to vote for Members of Parliament to serve for the Borough of Stafford at any Election which may take place between the 1st day of November 1835, and the 1st day of November 1836; showing the number of the Voter on the Register, his Name, with a reference to the Lists of Persons bribed, if any, in which a similar Name appears, W., H., M., B., C., M., (2). W. being List delivered in by C. H. Webb; H. signifying List delivered by Harding; M. being for List delivered by Meeson; B. denoting List delivered by Biddulph; C. List delivered by Cooke; and M (2) List delivered by Marson.

FREEMEN.

No. in Register.	Name of Voter.	Candidates Election 1831: CAMPBELL, GISBORNE, HAWKES.	Candidates Election 1832; CHETWYND, GRONOW, BLUNT.	Candidates Election 1835: GOODRICKE, CHETWYND, FARRAND, GRONOW, WOLSELEY.	List on which Name occurs, with Amount paid, if any.
1	Allen, William	bribed, M. (2) W	bribed, M., B.		
2	Allen, John	bribed, W	bribed, H., B.	bribed, C.	
3	Austin, Thomas	bribed, W	bribed, H., B.	bribed, C.	
4	Arrowsmith, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H., M.		
5	Adams, Robert	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M., B.	bribed, C.	
6	Allan, William, junior	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
7	Allen, James	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H., M.	bribed, C.	
8	Adams, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
9	Andrews, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
10	Allen, James	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
11	Arrowsmith, Richard	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
12	Astbury, Joseph	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
13	Austin, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
14	Ansell, George	bribed, W.	bribed, H., B.		
15	Aston, Abraham	bribed, W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
16	Allen, James	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
17	Allcock, James	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
18	Aston, Henry	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H., B.		
19	Allen, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
20	Allen, John	——	bribed, B., H.		
21	Arrowsmith, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H., M.		
22	Allen, Henry	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
23	Ansell, James	——	bribed, H., B.		
24	Bott, Edward	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
25	Biddulph, John	——	bribed, B., M.		
26	Beech, John				
27	Bill, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
28	Bladon, John	——	bribed, H., B.	bribed, C.	
29	Bill, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
30	Beech, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
31	Booth, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
32	Boult, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
33	Boult, Charles	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
34	Bailey, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
35	Bould, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
36	Biddulph, George	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
37	Bromley, John	——	bribed, B., M.		
38	Battey, John	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
39	Bill, Benjamin	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
40	Bullock, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
41	Barnett, William				
42	Bladon, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
43	Bullock, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
44	Beech, Samuel	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
45	Baggerly, William James	bribed, W.			
46	Bee, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
47	Bee, Richard	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
48	Brooks, Edward	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
49	Bott, Edward, jun.	bribed, W.	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
50	Birch, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
51	Bott, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
52	Birtles, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
53	Bates, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
54	Bullock, Richard	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
55	Brown, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
56	Beaman, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	

Mr. *E. Heyford.*

20 July 1836.

No. in Register.	Name of Voter.	Candidates Election 1831: Campbell, Gisborne, Hawkes.	Candidates Election 1832: Chetwynd, Gronow, Blunt.	Candidates Election 1835: Goodricke, Chetwynd, Farrand, Gronow, Wolseley.	List on which Name occurs, with Amount paid, if any.
57	Butler, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
58	Bee, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
59	Bullock, James	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
60	Battey, William	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
61	Battey, William	bribed, W.			
62	Bailey, Moses	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
63	Birch, Edward	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
64	Bailey, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
65	Biddulph, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
66	Brown, John	——	bribed, M., H.		
67	Barratt, William	——	bribed, B., H.		
68	Blakeman, John	——	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
69	Bradshaw, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
70	Beardmore, Charles	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H., M.		
71	Bott, James	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
72	Brindley, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
73	Bee, Theophilus	——	bribed, B., H.		
74	Bott, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
75	Bagnall, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.		
76	Bradbury, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
77	Bridgen, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
78	Booth, William, jun.	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
79	Bott, James, jun.				
80	Biddulph, John, jun.	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
81	Bott, Benjamin	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
82	Bradshaw, Joseph	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
83	Boot, John	bribed, W. (2)	bribed, B.		
84	Banks, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
85	Bickerton, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
86	Boulton, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
87	Brough, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
88	Broose, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
89	Bate, George	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
90	Broose, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
91	Birch, Walter	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
92	Boulton, Robert	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
93	Brough, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
94	Bennett, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
95	Bowers, Joseph	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
96	Bates, William	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
97	Barnett, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
98	Beardmore, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
99	Batley, Peter	bribed, W. (2)			
100	Bould, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
101	Bladon, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
102	Blakeman, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
103	Birtles, James	bribed, M. (2.)	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
104	Blackband, Richard	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
105	Bratt, William	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.		
106	Birch, Henry	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
107	Bratt, Francis	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
108	Bentley, George	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
109	Butler, James	bribed, W.	bribed, B, H.		
110	Broose, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M., H.		
111	Bott, Thomas Newbould.				
112	Brough, Thomas	——	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
113	Bill, James	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
114	Buxton, Joseph	bribed, W.	bribed, H		
115	Brookes, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
116	Bullock, Abraham	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
117	Biddulph, Henry	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
118	Bott, Henry Greensmith	——	——	bribed, C.	
119	Beech, William Thomas	——	bribed, B.		
120	Beaman, Richard, jun.	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
121	Bee, Jesse	——	bribed, H.		
122	Bates, John.				
123	Beardmore, Richard.				
124	Biddulph, Charles.				
125	Bailey, John Corne	bribed, M. (2) W.			
126	Brough, Peter.				
127	Beardmore, Benjamin.				
128	Brookes, John.				
129	Bird, William	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
130	Beardmore, William	——	bribed, H.		

(*continued.*)

Mr. *E. Herford.*

20 July 1836.

No. in Register.	Name of Voter.	Candidates Election 1831: Campbell, Gisborne, Hawkes.	Candidates Election 1832: Chetwynd, Gronow, Blunt.	Candidates Election 1835: Goodricke, Chetwynd, Farrand, Gronow, Wolseley.	List on which Name occurs, with Amount paid, if any.
131	Bently, William	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
132	Bill, John	bribed, W.			
133	Boulton, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H,		
134	Cartwright, Sampson.				
135	Cooke, Henry Bucknall	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
136	Cartwright, John.				
137	Clewes, Samuel	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
138	Careless, James	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
139	Cooke, Richard	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
140	Cooke, Daniel	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
141	Clewlow, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
142	Clewlow, Joseph	——	bribed, B.		
143	Cartwright, Daniel.				
144	Crutchley, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H., B.		
145	Cornwell, William	bribed. M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
146	Carter, Thomas	bribed, W.			
147	Cliffe, Thomas.				
148	Cofield, Thomas	——	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
149	Careless, Thomas.				
150	Clewlow, William	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
151	Cooke, Samuel	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
152	Coates, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
153	Chidley, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
154	Clewes, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
155	Crewe, Robert	bribed, W.			
156	Cotterill, William	bribed, W.	bribed, H., B.	bribed, C.	
157	Clewlow, Charles	bribed, W.	bribed, H., B.	bribed, C.	
158	Critchley, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
159	Cooke, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
160	Caithness, John Stubbs	bribed, W.	bribed, H., M.		
161	Crutchley, James	——	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
162	Chapman, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
163	Cotterill, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
164	Cotterill, Samuel	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
165	Clewes, Samuel, jun.	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
166	Cook, John Hales	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
167	Carter, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
168	Careless, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
169	Cartwright, Walter	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
170	Cook, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
171	Cadman, Robert	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
172	Clewlow, George	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M., H.		
173	Cooper, John	bribed, W.	bribed, H., M.	bribed, C.	
174	Clewes, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
175	Charlesworth, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
176	Cork, Charles	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
177	Corker, Daniel	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
178	Clarke, James Knight	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
179	Charlesworth, Joseph	——	bribed, H.		
180	Cooke, Richard	bribed, W.			
181	Clewlow, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
182	Clarke, William.				
183	Corker, John.				
184	Cooper, Peter Chambers	——	bribed, B., H.		
185	Dudley, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
186	Deakin, George	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
187	Dale, Joseph	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
188	Dawson, Daniel	bribed, M. (2)			
189	Day, Joseph	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
190	Dudley, Charles	bribed, W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
191	Dudley, Thomas, jun.	——	bribed, B.		
192	Dutton, Charles	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
193	Draper, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
194	Deakin, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
195	Deavall, James.				
196	Davenhill, Charles	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
197	Dreury, Joshua.				
198	Deavall, Edward	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.		
199	Deavall, Isaac	bribed, M. (2)			
200	Dickenson, James.				
201	Dudley, Charles				
202	Dawson, Edward	bribed, W.	bribed, H., B., M.		
203	Day, Edward	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
204	Danford, William	bribed, W.	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	

Mr. *E. Herford.*

20 July 1836.

No. in Register.	Name of Voter.	Candidates Election 1831: Campbell, Gisborne, Hawkes.	Candidates Election 1832: Chetwynd, Gronow, Blunt.	Candidates Election 1835: Goodricke, Chetwynd, Farrand, Gronow, Wolseley.	List on which Name occurs, with Amount paid, if any.
205	Dearn, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
206	Dickenson, George, jun.	——	bribed, M.		
207	Dodd, John	——	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
208	Dale, Philip	——	bribed, B., M.		
209	Dickenson, Thomas, jun.	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
210	Dudley, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
211	Day, Henry	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H., B.		
212	Dutton, Charles, jun.	——	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
213	Dickenson, William	——	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
214	Day, Francis	——	bribed, H., B.		
215	Day, William, jun.	——	bribed, M.		
216	Dudley, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.			
217	Dickenson, Benjamin	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
218	Dyche, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
219	Dale, James	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
220	Dale, George Seckerson	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
221	Deavall, Richard	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
222	Davenhill, Charles, jun.	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
223	Draper, Francis	brided, W.	bribed, M.		
224	Day, George	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
225	Dean, William	——	bribed, B., M.		
226	Day, Thomas, jun.	——	bribed, B.		
227	Dawson, Edward, jun.	——	bribed, B., M.		
228	Day, James	——	bribed, M.		
229	Draper, Daniel.				
230	Dutton, John.				
231	Dale, Henry.				
232	Dale, Thomas.				
233	Dale, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
234	Day, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
235	Day, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
236	Dudley, Charles				
237	Ebberley, Charles.				
238	Eley, John	bribed, W.	——	bribed, C.	
239	Emberton, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
240	Ecclestone, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
241	Evans, Joseph	bribed, W.	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
242	Ebberley, Richard	——	bribed, B., M.		
243	Emberton, James	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
244	Ebberley, John	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
245	Earp, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
246	Edwards, John	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
247	Eley, Joseph	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
248	Elsmore, William	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
249	Ecclestone, James	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
250	Edwards, George	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
251	Evans, Robert	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
252	Evans, John	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
253	Ebberley, James, jun.	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
254	Ecclestone, William.				
255	Ebberley, Joseph.				
256	Follows, Joseph	bribed, W.	——	bribed, C.	
257	Finlow, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
258	Follows, Joseph, jun.	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
259	Follows, James	bribed, W.	——	bribed, C.	
260	Finlow, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
261	Follows, Samuel	bribed, M. (2.)	bribed, B., H.		
262	Frith, James	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
263	Follows, John, jun.	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
264	Finlow, William, jun.	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
265	Follows, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
266	Fernyhough, George	——	bribed, B.		
267	Follows, Thomas Phœnix	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
268	Frith, John.				
269	Follows, Samuel	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
270	Finlow, John	bribed, W.	——	bribed, C.	
271	Frith, James, jun.	——	bribed, B.		
272	Finlow, Thomas, jun.	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
273	Fellows, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
274	Frith, Thomas.				
275	Finlow, Thomas.				
276	Follows, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed.	
277	Follows, Thomas	bribed, W.	——	bribed, C.	

(*continued.*)

No. in Register.	Name of Voter.	Candidates Election 1831: Campbell, Gisborne, Hawkes.	Candidates Election 1832: Chetwynd, Gronow, Blunt.	Candidates Election 1835: Goodricke, Chetwynd, Farrand, Gronow, Wolseley.	List, on which Name occurs, with Amount paid, if any.
278	Follows, Thomas.				
279	Fowler, Joseph Staniland	bribed, W.			
280	Fowke, William.				
281	Ford, John	——	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
282	Fernyhough, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
283	Finney, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.		
284	Follows, Edward	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
285	Fisher, Thomas	——	bribed, H.		
286	Fisher, James	——	bribed, H., B.		
287	Fowke, George.				
288	Ford, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
289	Finlow, John	——	bribed, H., B.	bribed, C.	
290	Frith, Edward.				
291	Ford, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
292	Follows, Jacob	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
293	Goodwin, James	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
294	Goodall, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
295	Goodall, Henry	bribed, W.	bribed, H., B.		
296	Godwin, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
297	Godwin, John	bribed, W.			
298	Gilbert, John	——	bribed, H., B.	bribed, C.	
299	Godwin, George	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
300	Guest, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
301	Godwin, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
302	Griffin, George	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
303	Godwin, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
304	Gilbert, William	bribed, W.	bribed, H., B.		
305	Godwin, Abraham	bribed, W.	bribed, H., B.		
306	Greenhough, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
307	Greenwood, Henry	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
308	Godwin, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
309	Godwin, John.				
310	Gilbert, William	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
311	Gallimore, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.		
312	Godwin, Samuel	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
313	Goodall, Henry	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
314	Goodall, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
315	Gilbert, John.				
316	Guest, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
317	Gibbons, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
318	Greatrex, William	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
319	Griffin, John.				
320	Godson, George Manning	bribed, W.	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
321	Glover, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
322	Gilbert, Samuel	——	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
323	Goodwin, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
324	Greenwood, John	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
325	Goodwin, William.				
326	Godwin, George, jun.				
327	Glover, William Gibbons	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
328	Grattidge, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
329	Glover, Thomas, jun.				
330	Godwin, John	——	bribed, B., M.		
331	Glover, William.				
332	Godwin, John.				
333	Griffin, Arthur.				
334	Gallimore, Edward	——	bribed, M.		
335	Goodall, John, jun.	bribed, W.			
336	Horton, John.				
337	Hill, Edward	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
338	Hodson, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
339	Hodson, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.		
340	Hawkins, James	——	bribed, M.		
341	Harding, William	——	bribed, B., H.		
342	Haywood, William	——	bribed, B., H.		
343	Harrison, Joseph	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
344	Hall, John	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
345	Hodson, John	——	bribed, M.		
346	Horne, Robert	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
347	Heath, John	——	bribed, B., H.		
348	Hodson, John	——	bribed, B., H.		
349	Heath, Thomas	——	bribed, B., H.		
350	Horton, Edward, Walcott,				

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351	Hodson, Thomas, jun.	——	bribed, M.		
352	Hodson, John	——	bribed, B.		
353	Hodson, John.				
354	Hall, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
355	Hawkins, Samuel	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
356	Hubball, Samuel	——	bribed, M.		
357	Hodson, Thomas.				
358	Heath, Francis	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
359	Hall, Lewis	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
360	Harding, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
361	Hubball, John.				
362	Hodson, Nicholas	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
363	Hurd, Joseph	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
364	Hammersley, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
365	Howe, Richard	bribed, M, (2) W.			
366	Hammersley, Thomas Bowyer	——	bribed, B.		
367	Hall, Thomas	——	bribed, M.		
368	Hillman, Richard	bribed, M. (2)			
369	Humphreys, William	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
370	Harvey, Robert	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
371	Hall, William.				
372	Haywood, Robert	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
373	Harvey, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
374	Hawkins, Joseph	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.		
375	Harrison, Thomas.				
376	Horsenail, James	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
377	Halden, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
378	Heeley, John.				
379	Hughes, Francis.				
380	Hubball, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
381	Hill, William, jun.	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.		
382	Horne, James	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
383	Hand, George.				
384	Hill, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
385	Hawkins, James, jun.	——	bribed, M.		
386	Hammersley, Isaac	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
387	Hodson, John.				
388	Hall, Enoch	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
389	Hawkins, Michael	——	bribed, B. H.		
390	Hall, Michael	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
391	Horsenal, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
392	Hillman, Joseph	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
393	Hammersley, Edward	——	bribed, B., M.		
394	Holdford, Joseph	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.		
395	Hall, John	——	bribed, M.		
396	Hall, Charles	——	bribed, B.		
397	Hawkins, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
398	Hornsby, James	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
399	Harrison, Joseph	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
400	Hubball, James	——	bribed, M.		
401	Holdford, Frederick	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
402	Hawthorn, John.				
403	Hughes, Richard.				
404	Hawkins, William	bribed	bribed, M.		
405	Hawkins, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.		
406	Hawkins, William	——	bribed, M.		
407	Hand, John	bribed, M. (3)	bribed, B.		
408	Hubball, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
409	Hubball, Stephen	——	bribed, M.		
410	Hill, Edward, jun.	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
411	Hawkins, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
412	Hartell, Thomas	bribed, W.			
413	Harvey, William	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
414	Hawkins, William, jun.	bribed, M. (2).			
415	Hudson, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
416	Hughes, Robert.				
417	Horne, Edward.				
418	Hawkins, David Barnett.				
419	Heith, Thomas	——	bribed, B., H.		
420	Hodgson, Thomas	bribed. W.			
421	Hand, William, jun.				
422	Harding, Henry.				

continued.)

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423	Haywood, Thomas.				
424	Harrison, William.				
425	Halden, Joseph.				
426	Horobin, James.				
427	Hill, Thomas	bribed, W.			
428	Hammersley, Thomas.				
429	Highfield, John.				
430	Hawkins, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
431	Insley, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
432	James, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
433	Jones, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
434	Jones, Robert	——	bribed, H.		
435	Insley, Charles	——	bribed, B., H.		
436	Jenkinson, George.				
437	Jones, William	——	bribed, H.		
438	Ilsley, Charles	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
439	Johnson, William	——	bribed, B., H.		
440	Johnson, Benjamin.				
441	Insley, Thomas	——	bribed, M.		
442	Ilsley, Joseph	bribed, M. (2) W.			
443	Jones, Robert, jun.	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
444	Jones, William.				
445	Jones, Thomas	bribed, W.			
446	James, John, jun.				
447	Jones, Henry	——	bribed, H.		
448	Jenkinson, George Hurd	——	bribed, M.		
449	Johnson, Christopher	——	bribed, H.		
450	Johnson, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
451	Johnson, Charles	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
452	Johnson, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
453	Johnson, William	——	bribed, B., H.		
454	Jennings, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
455	Insley, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
456	Jones, William, jun.	bribed, M. (2)			
457	Jones, John.				
458	Jennings, William.				
459	Jones, Joseph.				
460	Kenderdine, William.				
461	Keen, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
462	Kenderdine, Charles.				
463	Keeling, John	bribed, W.			
464	Kenderdine, John	——	bribed, B.		
465	Kenderdine, William	——	bribed, B.		
466	Kenderdine, Benjamin	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
467	Keen, George.				
468	Kenderdine, Isaac.				
469	Kenderdine, William	bribed, M. (2) W.			
470	Kingstone, John	——	bribed, B.		
471	Knight, John, Mayer	bribed, M. (2) W.			
472	Knight, Edward.				
473	Keeling, Benjamin.				
474	Kenderdine, Edward	bribed, M. (2) W.			
475	Kent, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
476	Kenderdine, Thomas	——	bribed, M.		
477	Kenderdine, William.				
478	Knight, William	bribed, W.			
479	Kenderdine, Edward	bribed, W.			
480	Keates, James	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
481	Kenderdine, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
482	Kenderdine, Edward	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
483	Kelsall, John.				
484	Knight, John.				
485	Kenderdine, William	bribed, W.			
486	Kenderdine, John.				
487	Lees, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
488	Lawley, John	——	bribed, B.		
489	Lander, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
490	Lloyd, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
491	Lander, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
492	Lawton, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.			
493	Lloyd, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
494	Lake, Thomas	bribed, W.			
495	Lander, Richard Mottershaw	bribed, W.			

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496	Lawton, William	bribed, M. (2) W.			
497	Lakin, Robert	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
498	Langley, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
499	Lawton, George	bribed, M. (2)			
500	Lloyd, Henry	——	bribed, M.		
501	Lloyd, Edward	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
502	Lownds, Thomas	bribed, W.			
503	Lakin, Charles	——	bribed, B.		
504	Langley, Edward.				
505	Limer, William	bribed, W.			
506	Moor John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M., B.		
507	Moor William	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
508	Moreton, Joseph	——	bribed, H.		
509	Machin, Charles	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
510	Meeson, Richard	——	bribed, B., M.		
511	Moor, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
512	Machin, Josiah	——	bribed, B., H.		
513	Meeson, Richard	bribed, M. (2)			
514	Meeson, George.				
515	Moreton, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
516	Meeson James	bribed, M. (2) W.			
517	Meeson, John.				
518	Mountford, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
519	Marsh, John.				
520	Machin Francis	bribed, M. (2) W.			
521	Morton, Daniel.				
522	Moore, William, jun.	bribed, W.			
523	Moreton, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
524	Mills, Joseph	bribed, W.			
525	Mills, Joshua	bribed, M. (2)			
526	Marston, Francis	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
527	Moor, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
528	Mellor, Joseph	bribed, M. (2)			
529	Morgan, Thomas.				
530	Moor, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
531	Mountford, Richard	——	bribed, B., H.		
532	Mountford, Edward	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
533	Mountford, Richard	——	bribed, B.		
534	Moor, William	bribed, M. (2)			
535	Mountford, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
536	Machin, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
537	Mosley, William	bribed, M. (2) W.			
538	Meeson, William.				
539	Mitchell, William	——	bribed, B., H.		
540	Mitchell, Peter	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
541	Mountford, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
542	Morgan, Charles Edward.				
543	Moreton, Daniel, jun.	——	bribed, H.		
544	Moore, James	——	bribed, B., M.		
545	Moreton, Francis	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
546	Moor, Richard, jun.	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
547	Machin, David	bribed, W.	bribed, M. H.		
548	Morrey, John	bribed, W.			
549	Morrey, William	——	bribed, M.		
550	Mathews, John	bribed, M. (2) W.			
551	Meeson, John.				
552	Morrey, George Hall.				
553	Moreton, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
554	Moore, Charles	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
555	Machin, John.				
556	Moreton, John, jun.				
557	Meeson, John, jun.				
558	Moreton, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
559	Meeson, Edward.				
560	Moor, John	bribed, W.			
561	Mason, William.				
562	Machin, Charles, jun.				
563	Moore, Edward	bribed, M. (2) W.			
564	Moore, Henry	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
565	Moreton, Joseph, jun.	bribed, M. (2) W.			
566	Mountford, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
567	Moreton, Thomas.				
568	Nevett, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		

(*continued.*)

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569	Nevett, William	bribed, M.(2) W.	bribed, M.		
570	Nickson, George	——	bribed, B.		
571	Nield, John	bribed, W.			
572	Nevett, Charles	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
573	Nutt, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
574	Nevett, George	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
575	Nevett, Thomas, jun.				
576	Newbould, Robert	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
577	Nevett, Robert	bribed, M. (2) W.			
578	Norcop, George	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
579	Nield, William	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.		
580	Nickson, William	bribed, W.			
581	Norcop, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
582	Noon, Peter.				
583	Nelson, Benjamin				
584	Owen, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
585	Orton, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
586	Pickin, Edward	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
587	Padmore, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
588	Pool, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
589	Pilsbury, George	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
590	Picken, Acton	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
591	Picken, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
592	Pilsbury, Lewis	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
593	Packer, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
594	Perry, Thomas	——	bribed, H.		
595	Phillips, John	——	bribed, B.		
596	Pattison, James	bribed, M.(2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
597	Perry, Thomas, jun.	——	bribed, H.		
598	Paddison, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
599	Parker, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
600	Plant, John	bribed M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
601	Pilsbury, William, jun.	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M., H.		
602	Perkin, Lewis	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
603	Perkin, James	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
604	Parkes, Thomas Whistance	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
605	Pearson, Joseph.				
606	Perry, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
607	Picken, William	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
608	Pearce, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
609	Pearce, William.				
610	Plant, William	bribed, M. (2) W.			
611	Parker, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M., H.		
612	Perry, Henry	——	bribed, H.		
613	Painter, Joseph	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
614	Perry, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.			
615	Pulling, Henry.				
616	Phillips, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
617	Parker, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
618	Painter, Joseph	bribed, M. (2) W.			
619	Perry, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
620	Parton, John	bribed, M. (2) W.			
621	Pilsbury, Lewis	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.		
622	Pilsbury, Lewis, jun.	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
623	Pugh, William	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
624	Peake, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.			
625	Phillips, Francis	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
626	Pilsbury, John.				
627	Parker, William	——	bribed, B.		
628	Picken, John.				
629	Plant, George.				
630	Parker, John.				
631	Peach, Henry.				
632	Painter, Henry.				
633	Picken, Thomas.				
634	Perry, William.				
635	Peeke, John	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.		
636	Peach, George.				
637	Reay, Samuel	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.	——	"Ray," B.
638	Riley, Michael	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
639	Russell, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
640	Riley, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		

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641	Robotham, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.	——	Robotham, B.
642	Rogers, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
643	Rose, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
644	Rogers, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
645	Ridding, George	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
646	Riley, Joseph	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.	bribed, C.	
647	Riley, Samuel	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
648	Riley, Richard	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
649	Robotham, William	——	bribed, B.		
650	Russell, John jun.	bribed, W.	bribed, M., H.		
651	Rochelle, Samuel	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
652	Riley, Joseph	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M.		
653	Riley, Richard	——	bribed, H.		
654	Rose, George	bribed, M. (2), W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
655	Reeves, William	bribed, M. (2), W.	——	bribed, C.	
656	Ratcliffe, Francis	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
657	Rogers, James	——	bribed, B., M.		
658	Snape, Nathaniel	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
659	Souter, Walter	bribed W.	bribed, B.		
660	Shenton, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
661	Shaw, John	——	bribed, B., M.		
662	Snape, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
663	Silvester, James	bribed, W.			
664	Stanton, Edward	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
665	Shelley, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
666	Stanton, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
667	Southern, William.				
668	Spilsbury, John	——	bribed, B., H.		
669	Swift, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
670	Smith, James	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
671	Simpson, Michael	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
672	Shenton, Stephen	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
673	Smith, James.				
674	Silvester, Robert	——	bribed, B.		
675	Shirley, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
676	Sellers, Sampson	——	bribed, H.		
677	Stanton, William, jun.	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
678	Stokes, Samuel	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
679	Swift, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
680	Slinn, Michael	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
681	Smith, John, jun.	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M.		
682	Stanton, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
683	Smith, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
684	Smith, Richard	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
685	Stokes, John	bribed, W.	——	bribed, C.	
686	Snape, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
687	Salt, James	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
688	Shenton, John, jun.				
689	Smith, John.				
690	Sutton, Thomas	——	bribed, B., H.		
691	Stubbs, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
692	Stonier, Richard	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
693	Stringer, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
694	Shaw, John Kenderdine.				
695	Shaw, William	bribed, M. (2.) W.			
696	Southern, William, jun.				
697	Simpson, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
698	Swift, William	——	bribed, B.		
699	Sellers, Richard.				
700	Sarjeant, Henry	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.		
701	Simpson, James	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
702	Simpson, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
703	Smith, Frederick	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C.	
704	Salt, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., M.		
705	Smith, William	bribed. M. (2) W.	——	bribed, C.	
706	Snape, Richard	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
707	Smith, James	——	bribed, B.		
708	Shenton, Stephen, jun.	——	bribed, M., H.	bribed, C. *q.*	
709	Salt, James, jun.	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
710	Salloway, Edward	——	——	bribed, C.	
711	Smith, Robert Willis	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C. *q.*	
712	Shockledge, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
713	Slater, John	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	

(*continued.*)

Mr. *E. Herford.*

20 July 1836.

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714	Stonier, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
715	Stanley, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
716	Stanton, William	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
717	Stanton, John	bribed, M. (2) W.			
718	Shaw, Henry	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C. *q.*	
719	Simpson, Thomas	——	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
720	Shenton, William	——	——	bribed, C.	
721	Shenton, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, M., H.		
722	Spilsbury, Joseph, jun.	——	bribed, M.		
723	Stanton, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
724	Swindells, William	——	bribed, H.		
725	Shenton, Edward.				
726	Salt, George.				
727	Silvester, William.				
728	Spilsbury, George.				
729	Spilsbury, John	——	bribed, H.		
730	Taylor, Joseph	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
731	Till, Thomas	bribed, W.			
732	Tooth, James	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
733	Tildesley, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
734	Tomlinson, Richard Bartlum				
735	Till, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
736	Tagg, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
737	Turner, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
738	Thorpe, George	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
739	Tonks, John	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
740	Thorpe, Joseph	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M., H.		
741	Tonks, George	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
742	Tildesley, Richard	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
743	Tonks, Peter	bribed, W.	bribed, M.		
744	Taylor, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C. *q.*	
745	Taylor, John	bribed, M. 2)	bribed, B., H.		
746	Till, John	bribed, W.			
747	Turner, John.				
748	Thorpe, Edward	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, W., M.	bribed, C.	
749	Tildesley, Richard, jun.				
750	Taylor, Thomas	——	bribed, B., H.		
751	Tooth, John	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
752	Taylor, Samuel	bribed W.	bribed, M., H.		
753	Tavernor, Henry	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
754	Tavernor, Elias	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
755	Tildesley, Thomas.				
756	Till, Thomas, jun.	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
757	Tildesley, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
758	Turnock, Robert.				
759	Thornton, Thomas	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
760	Thompson, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., M.		
761	Tildesley, James	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
762	Thorpe, Robert	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
763	Tildesley, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
764	Till, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
765	Turnock, James.				
766	Tagg, John	bribed, M. (2.) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
767	Tonks, William	bribed, M. (2.)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
768	Tinker, James	bribed, M. (2.) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
769	Taylor, William	bribed, W.			
770	Thornton, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	——	bribed, C.	
771	Till, James.				
772	Taylor, James	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
773	Tildesley, Edward.				
774	Tipper, John.				
775	Underhill, George	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
776	Venables, Thomas	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
777	Vickers, Henry	bribed, W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C.	
778	Warner, John	——	bribed, B.		
779	Wilson, John	bribed, M. (2)			
780	Wood, Edward	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
781	Wynne, George	bribed, W.			
782	Walker, John.				
783	Webb, James.				
784	Worsey, Edward.				
785	Westbrook, Samuel	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
786	Wynne, Francis	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		

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787	Wynne, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
788	Watwood, Thomas	——	bribed, H., B.		
789	Wood, George	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
790	Wynne, Robert	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
791	Wood, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
792	Wood, William.				
793	Wood, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
794	Wright, William	bribed, W.	bribed, B., M.		
795	Wildig, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
796	Weaver, William.				
797	Wilshaw, Charles	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C	
798	Wynne, John	——	bribed, B., H.		
799	Wright, Charles.				
800	Watwood, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)			
801	Webb, William.				
802	Wood, John	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
803	Wood, Thomas, jun.	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
804	Watwood, William, jun.	bribed, M. (2) W.			
805	Woollams, James	bribed, W.	bribed, H.		
806	Wynne, Francis, jun.	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
807	Ward, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.		
808	Wynne, William	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.		
809	Ward, Richard.				
810	Williams, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
811	Weaver, Joseph	——	bribed, M.	bribed, C.	
812	Wright, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.	bribed, C	
813	Webb, Thomas.				
814	Ward, Thomas.				
815	Worthington, James	——	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
816	Webb, James, jun.				
817	Webb, Henry				
818	Wynne, Robert	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B.		
819	Wood, John	——	bribed, H.		
820	Wood, William Barnett	——	bribed, B.		
821	Webb, Charles Henry.				
822	Westbrook, John	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.		
823	Wood, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.			
824	Webb, John Henson.				
825	Westbrook, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B.	bribed, C.	
826	Wilkes, Thomas, jun.	——	bribed, B., M.		
827	Wilkes, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, M. H.		
828	Wynne, William, jun.	——	bribed, B., H.		
829	Wood, Francis	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
830	Wardle, Robert	bribed, W.	bribed, B., H.		
831	Ward, John	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
832	Williams, Thomas	bribed, M. (2)	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
833	Wardle, Thomas	bribed, M.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
834	Wilson, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, B., H.	bribed, C.	
835	Wardle, Thomas.				
836	Woodwis, Peter	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C	
837	Wilkes, Joseph.				
838	Wynne, John.				
839	Ward, James	——	bribed, H.	bribed, C	
840	Walton, Jonathan	bribed, W.			
841	Ward, John Henry	bribed, W.	bribed, B.		
842	Westbrook, Henry.				
843	Westbrook, John jun.				
844	Wood, James.				
845	Wood, William Thomas.				
846	Wetherall, John	——	bribed, B.		
847	Windsor, John	——	bribed, H.		
848	Woolrich, Thomas	bribed, M. (2) W.	bribed, H.		
849	Wooliscroft, Joseph	——	bribed, M.		
850	Young, William	——	bribed, B., H.		
	Householders of Old Borough.				
851	Alcock, Samuel	——	bribed, H.		
852	Ash, Richard.				
853	Adams, Robert	——	bribed, M.		
854	Alcock, James.				
855	Addison, Joseph.				
856	Allen, John.				
857	Adams, William.				

Mr *E. Herford.*

20 July 1836.

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858	Amphlett, James.				
859	Arrowsmith, Thomas -	——	bribed, H., M.		
860	Allen, John.				
861	Abberley, John - -	bribed, M. (2)			
862	Bentley, William - -	——	bribed, H.		
863	Bentley, Thomas.				
864	Brown, William.				
865	Buxton, Samuel.				
866	Brookes, Henry.				
867	Brookes, Francis.				
868	Bourne, Charles.				
869	Bamford, Thomas.				
870	Bridgwood, George.				
871	Brassington, Edward -	——	bribed, B.		
872	Brutton, Thomas.				
873	Bromley, Thomas - -	——	bribed, B.		
874	Bonell, James.				
875	Bould, William - -	bribed, M. (2)			
876	Boydon, John.				
877	Burgin, Francis.				
878	Brewster, George.				
879	Bishop, John.				
880	Brown, William.				
881	Brown, Thomas - -	——	bribed, B.		
882	Bostock, Thomas.				
883	Bostock, Edwin.				
884	Bishop, John.				
885	Blythe, Robert.				
886	Butcher, Peter - -	——	——	bribed, C.	
887	Bott, Thomas - - -	——	bribed, H., B.		
888	Bentley, William.				
889	Batkin, John.				
890	Bott, Thomas Newbold.				
891	Barber, Hugh.				
892	Brassington, Henry.				
893	Beech John.				
894	Brookes, Edward.				
895	Beech, William - -	——	bribed, H.		
896	Beech, Samuel.				
897	Boydon, Thomas.				
898	Bould, John.				
899	Bates, John.				
900	Boot, John.				
901	Bromley, John.				
902	Bromley, James.				
903	Bridgen, Richard - -	——	bribed, B.		
904	Bentley, William.				
905	Bee, William - - -	——	bribed,.		
906	Bullock, Abraham.				
907	Birch, Joseph.				
908	Barnes, Edward.				
909	Bentley, George.				
910	Boulton, William.				
911	Beach, Thomas.				
912	Boulter, James.				
913	Brookes, John.				
914	Brown, Robert.				
915	Birkin, Edward.				
916	Coldwell, William Edward.				
917	Churton, William.				
918	Crutchley, John.				
919	Crewe, Robert, sen. -	——	bribed, B.		
920	Cartwright, William.				
921	Campion, Richard - -	——	——	bribed, C.	
922	Corker, Thomas - -	——	bribed, B.		
923	Chester, Charles.				
924	Careless, John - -	——	bribed, M.		
925	Chalmers, John - -	——	bribed, B.		
926	Collier, John - - -	——	bribed, H.		
927	Crutchley, Henry.				
928	Clewton, Joseph.				
929	Clay, William.				
930	Chapman, John.				

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931	Cockram, Samuel.				
932	Cornack, William.				
933	Crutchley, William.				
934	Collier, Robert - -	—	bribed, B.		
935	Cartwright, John.				
936	Carter, Thomas.				
937	Coates, John.				
938	Cliff, Thomas.				
939	Cartwright, Sampson.				
940	Crewe, Robert, jun.				
941	Cornwall, William - -	bribed, M. (2) -	bribed, B.		
942	Challinor, John.				
943	Cooke, William.				
944	Charles, John.				
945	Calloway, John.				
946	Draper, John.				
947	Dawson, Charles.				
948	Dean, John - - -	—	bribed, B.		
949	Davison, James.				
950	Daines, John - - -	—	bribed, B.		
951	Draycott, Thomas.				
952	Dodd, Michael.				
953	Devall, James - -	—	bribed, B.		
954	Dickenson, James.				
955	Dudley, Charles.				
956	Dale, Philip.				
957	Deavill, William - -	—	—	bribed, C.	
958	Deavill, Isaac.				
959	Dean, Francis.				
960	Dale, George.				
961	Danford, William.				
962	Dutton, Charles.				
963	Dawson, Edward, sen.				
964	Dawson, Edward, jun.				
965	Dearn, William - -	—	bribed, B.		
966	Davenhill, Charles.				
967	Darby, Thomas.				
968	Drewry, Frederick.				
969	Drewry, William.				
970	Dickenson, Benjamin -	—	bribed, M.		
971	Dale, Thomas.				
972	Dowell, John.				
973	Elley, William.				
974	Elley, Benson.				
975	Eley, Joseph - - -	—	bribed, B. M.		
976	Earp, Thomas.				
977	Ethell, William.				
978	Frantz, Charles - -	—	bribed, B.		
979	Flint, Charles.				
980	Fox, John.				
981	Fellows, George - -	—	bribed, B.		
982	Fernyhough, George -	—	bribed, B.		
983	Fisher, Thomas - -	—	bribed, B.		
984	Frith, James, sen.				
985	Frith, James, jun.				
986	Follows, Thomas Phœnix -	—	bribed, B.		
987	Fowke, William				
988	Frith, John.				
989	Finlow, William - -	—	bribed, B.		
990	Frith, Thomas.				
991	Fallows, William - -	bribed, M. (2)			
992	Fernyhough, Thomas				
993	Ford, William.				
994	Farton, William.				
995	Green George.				
996	Grathage, William.				
997	Gripton, Thomas - -	—	bribed, B.		
998	Gadsby, John Addison.				
999	Grimes, John - -	—	bribed, B.		
1000	George, St. John.				
1001	Garratt, John.				
1002	Griman, William.				
1003	Green, Thomas - -	—	bribed, B.		
1004	Garner, Thomas Beland.				

(*continued.*)

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1005	Gilbert, John.				
1006	Goodall, John.				
1007	Glover, John.				
1008	Grattidge, John - -	——	bribed, M.		
1009	Greenwood, Henry.				
1010	Holmes, Joseph - -	——	bribed, B.		
1011	Heath, Thomas.				
1012	Hiern, James Gay.				
1013	Hart, John - - -	——	bribed, B.		
1014	Hawthorn, John.				
1015	Hodgson, Nicholas - -	——	bribed, M.		
1016	Hammersley, Thomas Bowyer.				
1017	Hillman, Richard.				
1018	Hurd, Joseph.				
1019	Haywood, John.				
1020	Heath, William.				
1021	Hughes, Richard.				
1022	Hart, William.				
1023	Hughes, Francis.				
1024	Hart, Richard - - -	bribed, M.(2)			
1025	Hand, George.				
1026	Hand, John.				
1027	Harvey, Thomas.				
1028	Horne, Robert.				
1029	Hall, Henry - - -	——	bribed, B.		
1030	Horton, John.				
1031	Horton, Edward.				
1032	Holdford, Francis.				
1033	Hopper, Christopher.				
1034	Hunt, Robert King.				
1035	Harry, John.				
1036	Holmes, Robert.				
1037	Hughes, Richard.				
1038	Jones, Robert.				
1039	Jones, Robert, jun.				
1040	Jenkinson, Edward.				
1041	Jones, William.				
1042	Jones, Richard - -	——	bribed, B.		
1043	Johnson John - -	——	bribed, M.		
1044	Jenkinson, Henry - -	bribed, M.(2)	bribed, B.		
1045	Jones, Robert - -	——	bribed, B.		
1046	Jones, Richard.				
1047	Jones, William.				
1048	Jones, Joseph.				
1049	Kipling, John.				
1050	Keeling, Benjamin.				
1051	Kelsall, John.				
1052	Kenderdine, William.				
1053	Kenderdine, Isaac.				
1054	Kenderdine, Thomas.				
1055	Knight, Edward.				
1056	Keen, George.				
1057	Kenderdine, Charles.				
1058	Kenderdine, William.				
1059	Kenderdine, William.				
1060	Lowe, John.				
1061	Linter, Thomas Howard.				
1062	Lea, Thomas.				
1063	Lovatt, Joseph.				
1064	Lees, Thomas.				
1065	Lloyd, Edward - -	——	bribed, B.		
1066	Lowe, John - - -	——	bribed, B.		
1067	Lakin, Charles - -	——	bribed, M		
1068	Lawley, John.				
1069	Lake, Thomas.				
1070	Lloyd, John - - -	——	bribed, B. M.		
1071	Lander, Rich. Mattershaw.				
1072	Langley, John.				
1073	Lambert George - -	——	——	bribed, C.	
1074	Lloyd, Henry.				
1075	Lithgoe, John.				
1076	Leadbetter, Richard.				

Mr. *E. Herford.*

20 July 1836.

No. in Register.	Name of Voter.	Candidates Election 1831: Campbell, Gisborne, Hawkes.	Candidates Election 1832: Chetwynd, Gronow, Blunt.	Candidates Election 1835: Goodricke, Chetwynd, Farrand, Gronow, Wolseley.	List on which Name occurs, with Amount paid, if any.
1077	Morris, William.				
1078	Martin, John.				
1079	Marson, John.				
1080	Murray, Robert.				
1081	Mort, Charles Chester.				
1082	Masfen, John.				
1083	Moreton, Matthew - -	—	bribed, B.		
1084	Morgan, Arthur.				
1085	Morgan, Charles.				
1086	Mann, William.				
1087	Meddins, William.				
1088	Mountford, Richard - -	—	bribed, B.		
1089	Mountford, Samuel.				
1090	Machin, Josiah.				
1091	Moseley, William.				
1092	Marson, James.				
1093	Meeson, John.				
1094	Marsh, John.				
1095	Mottram, Joseph.				
1096	Morton, Edward.				
1097	Malpass, Joseph.				
1098	Marson, Walter.				
1099	Moore, Joseph Hodges.				
1100	Muir, James.				
1101	Norcop, George - -	—	bribed, B.		
1102	Nickson, George.				
1103	Nickson, William - -	—	bribed, B M.		
1104	Norman, George.				
1105	Piggot, John.				
1106	Pearson, John.				
1107	Passman, Charles Bradford.				
1108	Parr, Thomas - - -	—	bribed, B.		
1109	Peake, Edward.				
1110	Perkin, Joseph.				
1111	Phillips, John.				
1112	Plant, Richard.				
1113	Perry, Thomas.				
1114	Pilsbury, John.				
1115	Poulteny, William.				
1116	Powell, John.				
1117	Parkes, Thomas.				
1118	Plant, John - - -	bribed, M. (2) -	bribed, B.		
1119	Petchell, William				
1120	Pearson, Josiah.				
1121	Riley, Joseph				
1122	Riley, Thomas.				
1123	Rainham, Timothy.				
1124	Rogers, John.				
1125	Rochell, Richard.				
1126	Robotham William.				
1127	Reynolds, Thomas.				
1128	Robinson, Thomas.				
1129	Smith, Charles - -	—	- - -	bribed, C.	
1130	Summerfield, Francis -	—	bribed, B.		
1131	Sharratt, Sampson.				
1132	Sellers, Lamech.				
1133	Shallcross, William.				
1134	Sutton, John - - -	—	bribed, B.		
1135	Shaw, John.				
1136	Salmon, Joseph Ellis.				
1137	Shelley, Thomas - -	—	bribed, B.		
1138	Smallman, Thomas - -	—	bribed, B.		
1139	Sutton, John - - -	—	bribed, B.		
1140	Sillitoe, Joseph.				
1141	Shaw, William - -	bribed, M. (2) -	bribed, B.		
1142	Salt, Thomas - - -	bribed, M. (2) -			
1143	Simpole, Richard - -	—	bribed, B.		
1144	Smith, Daniel - - -	—	bribed, B.		
1145	Stanton, Edward - -	—	bribed, B.		
1146	Silvester, Robert - -	—	bribed, B.		
1147	Smith, James.				
1148	Smith, John.				
1149	Summerfield, Joseph.				

(*continued.*)

No. in Register.	Name of Voter.	Candidates Election 1831: Campbell, Gisborne, Hawkes.	Candidates Election 1832: Chetwynd, Gronow, Blunt.	Candidates Election 1835: Goodricke, Chetwynd, Farrand, Gronow, Wolseley.	List on which Name occurs, with Amount paid, if any.
1150	Spilsbury John.				
1151	Smith, Thomas - -	bribed, M. (2) -	bribed.		
1152	Swanwick, Joseph.				
1153	Sellers, Sampson.				
1154	Southern, William, jun.				
1155	Smith, John.				
1156	Smallshaw, Robert.				
1157	Stych, Charles.				
1158	Seckerson, Philip.				
1159	Stringer, Thomas.				
1160	Slayney, John.				
1161	Simpson, Michael.				
1162	Stevenson, Thomas.				
1163	Southern, William, sen.				
1164	Smith, Richard - -	——	bribed, M.		
1165	Shaw, John Kenderdine.				
1166	Swift, John.				
1167	Sellman, Humphrey.				
1168	Somerville, Francis.				
1169	Stevens, Richard.				
1170	Scarlett, Samuel.				
1171	Simpson, John.				
1172	Sidney, George.				
1173	Trubshaw, Henry.				
1174	Thomas, Thomas - -	——	bribed, B.		
1175	Talbot John.				
1176	Tooth, John - - -	——	——	bribed, C.	
1177	Taylor, James.				
1178	Turnock, James.				
1179	Turner, John.				
1180	Turnock, Robert.				
1181	Tildesley, Richard.				
1182	Tildesley, John.				
1183	Tomlinson, Rich. Bartlam.				
1184	Till, Thomas - - -	——	bribed, B.		
1185	Thornton, Thomas.				
1186	Turner, George.				
1187	Thorpe, Robert.				
1188	Taylor, Thomas.				
1189	Taylor William.	——	bribed, M.		
1190	Tinnins, Henry.				
1191	Tildesley, John.				
1192	Unitt, James.				
1193	Vitta, Charles.				
1194	Vickers, Michael. - -	——	bribed, B.		
1195	Whiston, George - -	——	bribed, B. *q.*		
1196	Whiston, Thomas - -	——	bribed, B. *q.*		
1197	Ward, Charles.				
1198	Wogan, William.				
1199	Whieldon, William Henry - - - -		bribed, B.		
1200	Ward, William.				
1201	Woolley, Thomas.				
1202	Ward, John.				
1203	Ward, John Collins.				
1204	Weaver, Thomas Davies.				
1205	Ward, Richard.				
1206	Wood Thomas.				
1207	Wood, William.				
1208	Wood, George - -	——	bribed, B.		
1209	Watwood, Thomas.				
1210	Wynne, George.				
1211	Worsey, Edward.				
1212	Webb, Charles Henry.				
1213	Wilson, Thomas.				
1214	Webb, James.				
1215	Whalley, Thomas.				
1216	Wilkes, George.				
1217	Williams, Thomas.				
1218	Wynne, Robert.				
1219	Williams, William.				
1220	Wynne, John.				
1221	Worsey, Ephraim.				
1222	Walker, John.				

No. in Register.	Name of Voter.	Candidates Election 1831: Campbell, Gisborne, Hawkes.	Candidates Election 1832: Chetwynd, Gronow, Blunt.	Candidates Election 1835: Goodricke, Chetwynd, Farrand, Gronow, Wolseley.	List on which Name occurs, with Amount paid, if any.
1223	Williams, David.				
1224	Webb, George.				
1225	Webb, Thomas.				
1226	Wallis, Emmaus.				
1227	Wood, Thomas.				
1228	Wadsworth, William.				
1229	Walker, George.				
1230	Wynne, George, jun.				
1231	Wynne, William, jun.				
1232	Whalley, William,				
1233	Yates, William.				
	Householders in new Parliamentary Borough.				
1234	Ash, Charles.				
1235	Blakeman, William - -	——	bribed, B.		
1236	Burton, John.				
1237	Blakeman, Thomas - -	——	bribed, B.		
1238	Bissell, Joseph.				
1239	Bradley, Robert,				
1240	Careless, George				
1241	Clarke, Charles.				
1242	Davison James.				
1243	Graham, Thomas.				
1244	Glover, John - - -	——	bribed, B.		
1245	Hawkins, William.				
1246	Hollinson, John.				
1247	Harper, Emanuel.				
1248	Hollis, Walter.				
1249	Huddleston, Edward.				
1250	Hubbald, John William.				
1251	Johnson, James - -	——	bribed, B., M.		
1252	Kenderdine, John.				
1253	Mitchell, John - -	——	bribed, B.		
1254	Nutt, Benjamin.				
1255	Parker, William - -	——	bribed, B.		
1256	Perrin, William Jackson.				
1257	Parker Thomas - -	——	bribed, B.		
1258	Plant, William - -	——	bribed, M.		
1259	Richardson, John				
1260	Rogers, Benjamin.				
1261	Slaney, John.				
1262	Simpson, Thomas.				
1263	Sayer, John.				
1264	Spilsbury, James - -	——	bribed, M. (*q*)		
1265	Targett, William - -	——	bribed, B.		
1266	Tagg, William - -	——	bribed, B.		
1267	Tildesley, William - -	——	bribed, B.		
1268	Whalley, Matthew.				
1269	Walker, Samuel.				
1270	Ward, Thomas - -	——	bribed, B.		
1271	Worse, William.				

Mr. *Whitmore* requested that time might be allowed to bring forward evidence to show that the names on the register of 1836, inserted in the analysis just given in, were not the same persons who, under the same names, received money in former elections.

The Counsel were informed that the petitioners, having been for many days in possession of the books containing the names of the persons stated to have been bribed, ought to have been in a situation by the present time to give the evidence referred to as a part of their case, it being understood, on all hands, that the case would be closed this day.

Mr. *Charles Flint.*

20 July 1836.

Then Mr. *Charles Flint* was again called in, and further Examined as follows:

Mr. *Whitmore.*] HAVE you compared the register of the year 1832 with the register of the year 1835?—I have.

Have you compared it with a view to ascertain how many names were on the register of 1832 which are not in the register of 1835?—I have.

Have you compared it also with a view to ascertain how many names are upon the register of 1835 that were not on the register of 1832?—I have.

Does the result of that comparison appear in the table before you?—It does.

Did you make that comparison yourself?—I did.

Have you also made a statement of those who are entered in a double capacity as freemen and householders?—I have.

You have made deductions in both respects?—I have. They are made also with personal knowledge, and with the assistance of the overseer. They are made out by comparison of the registers of 1835 and 1832. I had both registers before me at the time when I made that table.

You made a comparison of those registers?—Yes.

By a Lord.] What do you mean by assistance of the overseer?—Perhaps the statement will explain itself, if I am allowed to read it.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] You can speak as to double entries of freemen and householders; you have made a comparison from your knowledge?—Yes.

But as to the changes of names that were made simply by the register?—They are made by comparison between the registers of 1832 and 1835. I could not have made out a double register without personal knowledge, but the householders appeared upon the register of 1832 and 1835.

By a Lord.] Under the head of deductions that are registered in 1832, and not in 1835, and that are dead since the registration of 1835, there is the number of 263?—Those that are dead do not appear by the registration; they are deducted from the registration of 1835.

How does that fact appear?—The overseer is aware of that fact, and will prove that fact if necessary. Those that are dead apply to about fourteen or fifteen, which the overseer can speak to: the two registrations show the difference of 245; the list is made up by the difference of the deaths; I can alter it to agree with the registration in one moment, for I have the materials here.

Cross-examined by Mr. *Austin.*

Did you make out this table?—I did.

The first item is freemen registered in 1832, and not in 1835, and that are dead since the registration of 1835: do I understand you to say about thirteen or fourteen are dead?—I believe that is the number.

Then that will leave 250 who are registered?—There are about 245, exclusive of those dead.

Do you mean to say there are 245 names appearing upon the register of 1835; they did not appear upon the register of 1832?—I do.

Do you mean they were not registered as householders in 1832?—I do.

By a *Lord.*] You mean to say that is the result of the paper before the House?—Yes, the result of the registrations of 1832 and 1835.

Mr. *Austin.*] As taken generally from the registers, by reference to the name alone, without reference to the person?—Yes.

Be so good as to produce the list?—This is an office copy of the register of 1832.

"Freemen registered in 1835 and not in 1832." Do you mean to say that the names of those freemen do not occur at all in the registry of 1832?—I do.

You say you have a register of the change of names?—I will mark them in red ink, if it is required.

Mr. *Austin* consented to withdraw any objection to this paper being delivered in, the reference to persons who were dead being struck out, or their deaths being proved.

Mr. *Whitmore* stated that he gave parol evidence of the deaths of the persons referred to.

Mr.

Mr. *Robert Jones* was again called in; and further Examined as follows:

Mr. *Robert Jones.*
20 July 1836.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] YOU are the standing overseer of Stafford?—I am.

That before you is the register of 1832?—It is.

Will you look through the register and state, of your own knowledge, who in that register are now dead?—John Biddulph.

Mr. *Austin.*] Is there any person of that name living now?—No.

There is no such name upon the last register?—No, he has died since the last register.

You made out the list of 1832?—Not the burgess list; but I know he has died since the register.

How do you know what John Biddulph was inserted in that list?—Because there was no other.

There are two John Biddulphs, senior and junior?—There is John Biddulph dead; there is a son of his living. He is entered, No. 93.

How do you know he is dead?—I saw him buried.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] What is the next name?—Edward Brooks, No. 56; he is dead.

How do you know that?—I was under bearer to him: the next is John Birch, No. 58.

Did you follow him to his grave too?—No.

Mr. *Austin.*] How do you know that he is dead?—Because I have been to his house; he kept a bad house, and I have been there to alarm him. The next is James Bill, No. 133; I was well acquainted with him; he died of a decline; he was a neighbour of mine.

When did he die?—Some time last year.

Before the register for 1836 was made out?—I will not be positive of that; it was in the height of the summer he died.

Then he was registered after he was dead?—No, I do not think he was; he was ill in the hot weather; he might have died towards the latter end of the summer, but I believe he is dead. The next, Richard Cook, No. 153, he has been dead about six weeks. The next is William Grattridge, No. 361, he died about two months ago. James Hubball, No. 444, he died about Christmas. The next is Thomas Keen, No. 520, he has been dead about five weeks. Edward Kennedine, No. 550.

Did he live in the Foregate-street?—Yes. John Lees, No. 553, he died about a month ago. No. 584, Francis Machin; he died sometime about December last. The next, No. 585, Daniel Moreton; he has been dead about three quarters of a year, I suppose. The next is Joseph Mills, 590.

When did he die?—About six months ago. The next is Lewis Perkin, 682. James Perkin, No. 684. The next is No. 913, James Webb; he died about six or eight weeks ago. The next is No. 932, William Webb; he died a month ago. Here is another I have not called, George Keen Seckerton. There is another, John Moore; he has been dead about three-quarters of a year.

What is the total number of those?—Eighteen.

Those are deaths since the registry of 1835?—Yes, they are.

Are you employed in making out a list of householders or freemen for the register which is about to be made for this year?—Of the householders I am.

It is your duty to make out that list?—It is.

When do you make it?—I begin to make it the 20th of this month.

You have made yourself master of the information requisite for the purpose of making out that list?—I have.

Are there any additions this year to the householders' list of last year?—Yes, there is an addition.

Mr. *Austin.*] Have you got the list?—No, it is not made out: I have the rate books; there is an increase and a decrease, but I think the increase is greater than the decrease.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] How many new householders are there?—I suppose there may be, perhaps, thirty or forty.

How many are gone from last year?—I suppose there would be six or eight-and-twenty go off.

Mr. *Austin.*] What increase can you say there is?—I dare say there may be an increase of a dozen.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] The number which have gone off and come on, about thirty each way?—Probably thereabout.

Mr. *Robert Jones.*

30 July 1836.

There is a change to that amount either way?—There is.

Do you know anything of the freemen?—No, I did not make that list out.

Do you know any of the freemen of 1835 on the last year's register, who have been now resident for more than six months?—Oh, yes; I have looked the register over.

What means of knowledge have you that any of those freemen have become non-resident?—There were nine-and-twenty or thirty who have become non-resident.

Do you know where they are?—Some living in Manchester, some in Liverpool, some in Wolverhampton, and two are living in London now.

Do you know that?—Yes; I do not know whether they are living or dead, but they were in London some time back.

They have ceased to reside at Stafford?—Yes.

They have gone away from Stafford?—Yes, gone away entirely, and their families as well.

They have left since the last register?—Yes; there were a few that were on the last register that were non-residents; then they will be struck off this year, of course.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

The List produced by Mr. *Flint* was read as follows:

ALTERATIONS and ADDITIONS in STAFFORD and FOREBRIDGE HOUSEHOLDERS and FREEMEN in 1835 since 1832, and showing double Entries of both Classes, made by a comparison of the Registers of 1832 and 1835.

Deduct for Deaths since Register of 1836 - Eighteen Persons.

Freemen registered in 1832, and not in 1835, and that are dead since the Registration of 1835	263		
Freemen registered in 1835, and not in 1832	114		
		–	377
Stafford Householders in 1832, and not in 1835	–	30	
Ditto - ditto - 1835, and not in 1832	252		
Deduct those that are double entered as Freemen and Householders	142		
		110	
			140
Forebridge Householders registered in 1832, and not in 1835	–	8	
Ditto - - ditto - - 1835, and not in 1832	16		
Deduct those that are double entered, as Stafford and Forebridge Householders	2		
		14	
			22
			539

SUMMARY.

Alterations and Additions in Freemen between 1832 and 1835 -	377
Ditto - - Stafford Householders - - -	140
Ditto - - Forebridge ditto - - - -	22
	539

Deducting the double Entries from the Freemen.

Freemen registered in 1832, and not in 1835, and that are dead since the Registration of 1835	263		
Freemen registered in 1835, and not in 1832	144		
		377	
Deduct those that are double entered as Freemen and Householders	-	142	
			235
Stafford Householders registered in 1832, and not in 1835	-	30	
Ditto ditto - - 1835, and not in 1832	-	252	
			282
Forebridge Householders in 1832, and not in 1835	-	8	
Ditto - ditto - 1835, and not in 1832	16		
Deduct those that are double entered as Stafford and Forebridge Householders	2		
		14	
			22
			539

SUMMARY.

Alterations and Additions in Freemen between 1832 and 1835 -	235
Ditto - - Stafford Householders - - -	282
Ditto - - Forebridge ditto - - - -	22
	539

Then

Then Mr. *Charles Flint* was again called in; and further Examined as follows:

Mr. *Charles Flint.*
20 July 1836.

Mr. *Whitmore.*] HAVE you compared that list, handed in by Mr. Herford, a list of persons who received money from Captain Gronow in 1835?—I have.

Do you find any names in that list which do not occur in the same lists of persons bribed at previous elections?—I find of freemen who did not receive money in 1832 from Gronow, and did receive in 1835, William Deavall.

That is the only instance of a person who received in 1835, who did not receive in 1832, or previously?—I have some doubts as to five others.

What is the ground of your doubt?—The names correspond, but they do not appear to be identically the same parties. There are some I have queried, but I cannot state, with the exception of seven; there is one name I know who received in 1835, but did not in 1832. I have no doubt that if I put the whole number at seven, that will be the full extent of it.

From the list of Captain Gronow's, have any gone off from deaths within your own knowledge?—Part of those that the overseer has proved to be dead; for instance, John Birch, Richard Cook and others: there are about eight dead, and seven non-residents since the election.

[*The Witness was directed to withdraw.*

[*The Counsel were directed to withdraw.*

Ordered, that the further consideration and second reading of the said Bill be put off till Tuesday next, and that the Lords be summoned.

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REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

TURNPIKE TRUSTS AND TOLLS;

TOGETHER WITH THE

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

AND APPENDIX.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
9 *August* 1836.

Martis, 1° die Martii, 1836.

Ordered, THAT a Select Committee be appointed to consider the present system of Turnpike Tolls and Trusts, and other Matters relating to Roads.

Jovis, 3° die Martii, 1836.

The Committee was nominated of,—

Mr. Mackinnon.	Mr. Law Hodges.
Mr. Ormsby Gore.	Mr. Fleming.
Lord Viscount Clive.	Sir Richard Musgrave.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	Mr. David Roche.
Lord Viscount Lowther.	Mr. Edward John Stanley.
Mr. Childers.	Mr. Walter Long.
Sir Henry Parnell.	Sir Richard Vyvyan.
Mr. Stewart Mackenzie.	

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

Lunæ, 9° die Maii, 1836.

Ordered, THAT Mr. Law Hodges, Sir Richard Musgrave, and Sir Richard Vyvyan, be discharged from further attendance; and that Mr. George Evans, Mr. Chalmers, and Mr. Richard Walker, be added to the Committee.

Martis, 9° die Augusti, 1836.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to report their Observations, together with the Minutes of the Evidence taken before them, to The House.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - p. 1

APPENDIX - - - - - - - - - - p. 159

REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to consider the present system of TURNPIKE TOLLS and TRUSTS, and other Matters relating to ROADS; and who were empowered to Report their Observations thereupon, together with the MINUTES of the EVIDENCE taken before them, to The House;—HAVE agreed to the following REPORT:

YOUR Committee have deemed it advisable to separate the subject placed under their consideration into the following Heads, and after stating the abstract of the Evidence upon each, to lay before The House the conclusions which seem to arise from whatever information they were enabled to obtain.

1. The expediency of abolishing Tolls and Tollgates, and of substituting some other means for the maintenance of the Turnpike Roads throughout the Kingdom.

2. The Consolidation (to a certain extent) of Turnpike Trusts, both in Revenue and in Management.

3. The formation of a Highway or Rural Police by an organization of the labourers employed on the Roads.

4. The establishment of a Central Board in the Metropolis to superintend and control the management of the Funds, and the expenditure of Road Trusts.

In regard to,

1. The expediency of abolishing Tolls and Tollgates, and of substituting some other means for the maintenance of the Turnpike Roads throughout the Kingdom. The great proportion of the witnesses examined on this point appear nearly unanimous in their testimony, that the system of exacting Toll from the Public for the use of the Roads, is vexatious, expensive in the collection by the number of Collectors and Tollgates kept up, and from a combination occasionally found amongst the Lessees of such Tollgates in the vicinity of large towns, by which in some instances the fair equivalent in rent is not obtained by the Trustees. The loss sustained by this mode of raising a revenue from the public cannot be ascertained with any degree of accuracy, but Your Committee entertain but little doubt that such loss or per-centage in receiving Toll is considerable. In those parts of the country where great towns are not found, the chief burden of the Tolls seems to fall upon the landholder and the inhabitants of the neighbourhood; and whilst they are paying more in Tolls than they would probably pay in some other manner if the system were altered, they find their property in houses or land deteriorated in value from the impediments to a free intercourse of commodities arising from Tolls.

Your Committee submit that facility of communication in every country is one of the causes, and also a result, of national prosperity; and that whatever charge or tax has a tendency to check this facility of communication, ought to be avoided by the Legislature.

The observation often made, that those only who use the roads should pay for such use, can scarcely be applicable in a civilized community, where every

individual must more or less be benefited by facility of communication. If in this Metropolis a Tollbar were erected in the centre of each street for carriages and horses, it can scarcely be imagined that the inhabitants of a house paying a rate of say 10*l.* in each year for paving, lighting, &c. &c., would in lieu of that rate prefer paying 15*l.* in each year at the Tollbars in the several streets; such, however, in a greater circle, seems to be the system of Tolls and Tollgates in the country.

Although Your Committee can scarcely arrive at any other conclusion, than that the abolition of Tolls throughout the Kingdom would be beneficial to the community, they cannot withhold their expression of regret at the difficulties that present themselves in the substitution of any other mode of revenue available for that purpose.

The Witnesses examined vary considerably in their sentiments on this subject. A house-rate on all houses above 10*l.* a year rent, a county rate, the assessed taxes on horses and carriages, and the post-horse duty, have been severally mentioned: on these points, however, Your Committee do not feel themselves called on to give any opinion.

2. The consolidation (to a certain extent) of Turnpike Trusts, both in revenue and in management.

On this point the Evidence seems nearly unanimous, that such a consolidation would be desirable: the most convincing evidence given seems to show, that the result would be, a saving of the heavy Expenditure arising from the salaries and perquisites of the officers managing small Trusts; a cheaper and more extensive mode of purchasing road materials; in abolishing the competition for such materials now common amongst small Trusts; from an increased capital, and greater and more constant demand naturally arising from the means of a Consolidated Trust; to which may be added, an improved and more comprehensive system of management being obtained, in an extended Trust, than can at present be found in the small Trusts.

In this consolidation, difficulties however seem to present themselves not easily overcome. These difficulties arise from the opposition to such a measure by those connected with the small Trusts, which are extended widely throughout the country districts. The main obstacle, however, is found in the state of the Funds of the several Trusts, some being considerably in debt, beyond perhaps what they can pay, others being (if the term may be allowed) in affluent circumstances, which renders a consolidation of funds not acceptable to both parties; also from the opposition raised by the creditors of those Trusts who have given good security, the creditors of which feel adverse to the adoption of any measure likely to lessen their security by uniting the solvent Trust, to whom they have advanced money, with one or more of an opposite description. The expression used by one of the witnesses (28 April 1836) is, "I am strongly of opinion, that until the mode of securing the debt upon an equitable apportionment be made, no effective course of consolidating the Trusts can be accomplished."

A consolidation of Management, without a similar measure with regard to the Funds, may, some of the witnesses seem to imagine, create confusion and difficulty, and not be productive of the benefits required.

3. The formation of a Highway or Rural Police by an organization of the labourers employed on the Roads.

This

This force, which it is not proposed to establish from the labourers on a system of police resembling that now so useful in the Metropolis and other large towns, but only an occasional police, to be called out or brought into operation for the purpose of taking offenders in their attempts to escape from or evade justice, and to prevent arson and other offences against the laws, seems to be approved by some witnesses, but to be considered by other testimony as not likely to combine effectually the duties of a labourer and those of a constable, and some witnesses think that the performance of one duty might disqualify the party from the due exercise of the other. It appears, however, that in the Middlesex and Essex Roads, the surveyors and labourers have lately been sworn in as special constables, with considerable advantage to the police of the said Roads, without such duty interfering with their ordinary labours *.

On this subject Your Committee do not feel themselves qualified to give an opinion, and will only lay before The House the Evidence received.

4. The establishment of a Central Board in the Metropolis to superintend and control the management of the Funds, and the expenditure of Road Trusts.

On this question the evidence has been nearly balanced between the eligibility of such a Central Board being established in the Metropolis, or in the several counties, or districts. Your Committee cannot but think that a central board, or local boards of control, of such a description, would prove useful in preventing any wasteful expenditure of the funds in some Trusts, and in checking the practice of making or keeping up roads with the public money in others, either for local purposes or personal benefit; also of presenting a barrier to the system of borrowing money at a high rate of interest, by which some Trusts, at this moment, are liable to pay more in interest than they receive in Tolls.

With all the advantages, however, arising from a controlling power over expenditure, Your Committee must guard against being understood as conveying the recommendation of any executive power, or control of management or of direction, being confided to a central board, which might place the management of the Roads of the Kingdom under the same power as the Roads of France or of Spain. Your Committee cannot but entertain the opinion, that the country gentlemen and the magistracy in the several counties, are the parties most likely to exercise the executive power in all matters relating to the Roads with most advantage to the public, and satisfaction to the neighbourhood. Your Committee also think that a controlling power over expenditure would be beneficial, either in a central board or local districts.

Evidence was laid before Your Committee relative to the formation of Roads and other matters, which, not being of a conclusive character, may become the subject of consideration in the next Session of Parliament. Your Committee having given the result of the examination taken before them, cannot avoid laying before The House the conclusion which such Evidence, and the Statements contained in the Returns on Turnpike Trusts and Tolls throughout the country, have enabled them to make; which are submitted as follows:

Your Committee think the present state of the Trusts and Tolls throughout the Kingdom, calls imperatively for the serious attention of the Legislature.

The

* Statement of Mr. G. Dacre, of Stratford, Essex.

The Debts incurred at present amount to nearly 9,000,000 *l.*, with a probability of increasing every year in the same ratio as they have done for many years past.

Several Trusts are in a state of insolvency; some have entered into engagements to pay interest yearly much more than the annual amount of their income.

The formation of Railroads may, in some cases, by lessening the Tolls on parallel lines of road, seriously injure the *bonâ fide* creditors, and at the same time throw the entire burthen of maintaining the Roads on the adjoining parishes, which would prove a heavy charge on the landed interest.

The mismanagement in the funds, and confusion in the accounts, of some Trusts, and the inaccuracy of the Returns in many, is much to be regretted.

Under these peculiar circumstances, therefore, if the wisdom of Parliament thinks fit to apply any remedy, it seems that one or other of the following measures may present themselves for Legislative deliberation.

To consider some plan that may lessen the expenses of management, and will consolidate the interests of the several Trusts, check extravagance, and promote economy, and for a time stop the growing evil. The other would be, at once firmly to meet the difficulties that present themselves, to pay off the debt of 9,000,000 *l.* by an advance of a given sum much under the amount before mentioned, which by composition would enable the Trusts to pay off their debts, to abolish the system of Tolls and Tollgates, substitute some other revenue for the maintenance of the Roads, which revenue need not exceed 1,000,000 *l.* annually, in place of the sum of nearly 1,600,000 *l.* a year at present exacted from the public, which Tolls are vexatious and expensive to the parties by whom they are paid, and prove also injurious to the landed, the commercial, and to every other interest in the community.

In the event of some other revenue being substituted for the maintenance of the Roads, in place of that collected by Toll, the Committee think such revenue ought to be placed in the hands of the Trustees, as at present.

One source of check against prospective expenditure Your Committee recommend for immediate adoption, viz. that no Turnpike Bill should be passed through the House of Commons without a Clause establishing a Sinking Fund, of not less than One per Cent., for the redemption of any Debt existing under the authority of former Acts, and a similar Clause for any Debt hereafter to be created, for making, maintaining and improving Turnpike Roads.

Your Committee have gone into but little inquiry with regard to the Turnpike Trusts in Ireland, for want of time; and the Returns, showing the state of the Turnpike Trusts in Scotland, have not yet been obtained. It seems, therefore, expedient that this Committee should be renewed at the commencement of the next Session of Parliament, and that any legislative measure that may be brought forward should be submitted to the consideration of that Committee.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Lunæ, 18° *die Aprilis*, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.
Mr. Childers.
Mr. John W. Fleming.
Colonel Rushbrooke.
Mr. Walter Long.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Colonel *John Fox Burgoyne*, called in; and Examined.

Colonel *J. F. Burgoyne.*
18 April 1836.

1. *Chairman.*] YOU have directed your attention to the system of the collection of the revenue and the management of roads?—As Chairman of the Board of Public Works in Ireland, I have considered the matter as regards Ireland, but I have not much knowledge of the English system from positive experience.

2. Have the goodness to state to the Committee what your opinion is with regard to the expediency of altering the system of collecting the tolls, and of raising a revenue by some other means than by toll?—I think the system of turnpike tolls is very vexatious and very expensive; I should recommend in preference some general taxation, more particularly on carriages and animals of draught and riding, with the addition of a small house and land-tax, as I consider every member of the community is benefited by the maintenance of good roads.

3. You are of opinion that such a system would assist the landed interest?—I think it would be more just to all interests, to all parties, that it would be more politic and less expensive, and in short, more just to His Majesty's subjects in general. As far as the landed interests are concerned, I think some taxation may fairly be laid upon them for the cattle and sheep and agricultural produce, &c. that make use of the roads extensively.

4. Would not the raising of the amount by a land-tax be equally onerous on the landed interest as the payment of tolls?—I think that they would have a much smaller proportion to pay by the taxation I should propose, than they have at present; I think that every house above a certain value, even in towns, should pay a tax; that would of course relieve the agriculturists.

5. Do you think the raising such a revenue would be popular in the country?—I think it would eventually; it would be so extremely light on everybody, that they would see the benefit of it in the practice; at first there will be parties who imagine that they now avoid the tolls altogether, though I think without good grounds; for instance, householders who do not keep horses; there is certainly a description of persons, though not very numerous, who avoid all description of taxes, such as single men who have no constant residence.

6. Did it ever come under your observation that there was combination among those individuals who lease the turnpikes to pay less rent for the turnpike than the thing was fairly worth, so as to defraud the public of its just rights?—I have heard of such combinations frequently, and it must be very feasible for persons to make them, though I could not state instances from my own knowledge.

7. Have you ever turned your attention to the consideration of what amount of the money paid by the public in the shape of tolls, finds its way to the repair of roads?—I have never attempted to make a precise calculation; but it must be very irregular; in very small trusts, the proportion abstracted from the real

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service of the road must be very great, to pay for the establishment of clerks and the gates and gate-keepers; in larger trusts I suppose the proportion would be less.

8. Have you ever come to any definite conclusion as to the absolute loss incurred to the public from the present system of paying tolls?—Never; there is a paper which, as far as Ireland is concerned, would enlighten the Committee upon that point, to be found in the Minutes of Mr. More O'Ferrall's Committee on Turnpike Trusts; there the amount of tolls levied is detailed and the expenses of each trust, and the discrepancy between one and another, in the expense of establishments, is very great indeed, and shows the system to be very injudicious.

9. You have no doubt the loss to the public must be very great?—The loss must be very great indeed in a small trust; and where the road is not much frequented, I can conceive sometimes the tolls would hardly pay for the establishment and the cost of collecting.

10. Have you directed your attention to the evidence given before the Committee of the Lords, with regard to the possibility of having milemen upon the roads, and employing them as constables on an emergency, forming them into a sort of highway police?—There is no doubt that such a system might be adopted with very great advantage, but I do not know that it would be applicable perhaps universally; that must depend probably on the men's character; there may be a very good man on the road for work, who may be unfit to be entrusted as a constable, but I should think the larger proportion might be made use of.

11. By raising the character of the workmen, might that be done to a greater extent?—Probably.

12. Do you agree with this part of the report of the Lords' Committee: "The measure of employing permanent milemen, with occasional assistant labourers, on the roads, has combined such indisputable advantages, that the Committee do not hesitate to recommend its more general adoption, and submit that such a system might be rendered contributory to objects of general security"?—I agree with that entirely; but I do not think in Ireland it could be of such frequent application as in England; men cannot be induced there to act as informers, or to assist abstractedly in the prevention of offences, though they would in cases of theft.

13. They would be a different class of persons from the present police in Ireland?—If employed as a road-police, they would act in that way, but if they are road-workmen, that would be another thing; I do not think it would be easy to combine them, but the state and feeling of the country is improving, and by degrees that system might come into operation.

14. With regard to England, do you consider that it might be feasible for the establishment of a rural police, to make use of milemen?—From the combination of their duties they will hardly be so efficient, but any respectable man in England may be made a guardian of the laws, and perhaps a useful constable, by paying him somewhat extra for the duty.

15. What is your impression as to the eligibility of consolidating, not only the management, but also the funds of the trusts?—I think any consolidation of the small trusts in any shape would be very useful and very desirable.

16. Assuming such consolidation to take place, would it be desirable, in your opinion, that the management should vest in a board of commissioners in London, or in officers appointed by the country gentlemen in the several counties?—I conceive there will be some objections probably to the entrusting a board in London with the entire management of funds levied for local purposes, and therefore it might be better perhaps to have a board in the districts where the consolidations take place, but under some general inspection and supervision of a central board.

17. Are you to be understood to mean, that you would recommend a central board to superintend the finance, and leave the executive management to the country gentlemen?—I have an objection to country gentlemen having the executive management; I do not think they are a body well constituted for it; what I should call an unpaid executive are not fit in my opinion for such business.

18. Why?—They are ill organized for regulating details.

19. You do not approve of the present boards of turnpike trusts?—Not at all.

20. Will you state briefly your views upon the subject?—I do not think Government

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Government management would be undesirable, but I think there would be great objections in this country to it. Instead of consolidating the trusts, I would abolish the boards of local trustees as at present constituted altogether. I consider bodies of unpaid local commissioners or trustees as a very bad organization for the executive management of any business. They consist usually of a great number of individuals, to insure the necessary attendance of a quorum; many may live at a considerable distance; sometimes one will attend, sometimes another; there will be a want of uniformity of action, and of a correct knowledge of the business; a few individual members will perhaps pay peculiar attention to it, and their services be very valuable, but their efforts are always liable to interruption from the caprice or want of judgment of some of the other members; there is no responsibility; the attendance being gratuitous, is considered to absolve them from any right to be reproached. I have perceived all these defects in such bodies, though every member personally might be highly respectable and honourable; but bodies so constituted will frequently do collectively what none of the members would as individuals. The present condition of the trusts would seem to prove that the organization is bad. There are probably insurmountable objections to a general system of management of this great concern by the Government, on account of the extent of influence and patronage it would give; the expense of establishments, and the depriving of the public locally concerned of a direct supervision and control over local expenditure; but I do not coincide in the opinion that such a mode would be inefficient; on the contrary, I believe that the roads would be more perfectly and economically managed; nor do I think that the case of France affords a decisive argument to the contrary. The works there are conducted by an exclusive body, regularly organized from their youth for the service; and although comprising many very able men, are without the advantages of the competition of talent and experience of men, as in England, who have their fortunes entirely dependant upon their own efforts and abilities; the policy of perfect roads is not so clearly acknowledged, or perhaps so necessary, in that country as in this, and the engineers in charge complain greatly of being too much restricted in funds. I have seen statements by them explaining that the chaussées or paved roads were in a gradual state of deterioration, not perhaps perceptible to observation, except on the minute examination of professional men, but that they would require eventually an unusually great outlay. The macadamised roads have only been introduced of late years, and they appear as yet to be far from understanding thoroughly the proper principles of their construction. Assuming however that a local control and management *must* be adopted for England, I consider that it might be best done by dividing the country into compact districts, either of counties or otherwise, but to be large.

21. Have you given your attention to the subject of what system might be adopted in lieu of the present one?—Yes, I conceive there should be a board for each district, not to interfere in any of the details of management, but to organize and control a paid and responsible establishment for that service. The same board to regulate the assessment and levy of the requisite funds, under the provisions of a general Act of Parliament for that purpose, and a central superior body of commissioners in London to control and regulate the whole arrangement. This superintending board would examine and check all the accounts, and would employ a few first-rate engineers to inspect occasionally every district, to give professional advice for the introduction of the best and most economical possible system for the works, to suggest improvements, &c. The reports of the central board being laid before Parliament and made public, it is probable that no local board would admit of the continuance of any species of mismanagement pointed out; but if thought proper, there might be a power given to compel a compliance with the recommendations of the commissioners.

22. Have you any other observations to make on those points which have been put to you?—I am not aware of any.

23. Have you considered how the revenues for the maintenance of roads might be best provided?—With respect to the revenue to be collected for this service, the highways of the country are so much a matter of general interest, that the rate could hardly be too universal, unless as regards an exception in favour of the poorer classes. The most natural objects for this taxation would be carriages of all descriptions, and animals for draught or saddle, in proportion to the purposes for which used; these at present (with cattle, sheep, &c.) pay the whole, but a small house and land-tax might be reasonably added. There might be some difficulty

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in apportioning the assessment very precisely, so as to prevent some discrepancies, but the amounts would be so light that there would be very few parties probably, who would not feel the direct benefits of the change; and after all, the peculiar cases of hardship and injustice would be far short of what they are now. Many resources would, no doubt, suggest themselves for the accommodation of parties by admitting of compounding for the rate, &c. A serious question may, perhaps, arise as to the manner and expense of levying such rate, and it is one of which I have no knowledge, and consequently can offer no opinion; but the machinery for regulating the poor's rates or county rates, might, perhaps, afford the means without a great increase of expense. There are cases where the principle of district maintenance, by local taxation, would require some modification. The horses and carriages of the resident gentry and farmers would be assessed in the districts, and for the periods in which they were habitually found there; the same of post-horses and carriages, and stage-coach horses, but the stage-coaches (as vehicles) and carriages, and horses of some bodies, like commercial travellers, &c., are of general resort, and there would be a great surplus levy in large towns and cities. On the other hand, important improvements in the communications of great extended public utility, and beyond the means of the local resources, might be very desirable, and for which aid should be granted on these accounts; and to defray the expenses of the central board, and other subjects of outlay, common to the whole, it would be necessary to arrange the formation and support of a general fund which would meet those objects.

24. Have you ever directed your attention to the subject of the construction of roads?—I have.

25. Will you have the goodness to state your opinion of the present construction of roads, and whether the system could be ameliorated?—The general system of repair and road-making in Ireland, and I believe in England, is defective; there are some able engineers who have turned their attention to such works, and been practically conversant with them, but who differ very much in opinion with regard to the construction; Mr. Telford and Mr. M'Adam differ very much in some points.

26. To which system do you give the preference?—I doubt whether I am perfectly capable of judging; but I am inclined to take rather a medium course between the two, to apply the one in some situations, and the other in other situations; I think Mr. Telford's principle decidedly the best, but I am not quite sure whether the operation, as apparently laid down for universal application, in detail would not be very expensive in some situations.

27. For the benefit of the Committee, will you state what you consider the real difference between Mr. M'Adam's system and Mr. Telford's?—Mr. Telford applies a solid substratum with no elasticity whatever; Mr. M'Adam, on the contrary, admits of an elastic surface for the road; and it is manifest, that where the road is elastic, if it bends with the weight of the carriage, you are constantly working up hill. It used to be said with respect to bog roads, that they were beautiful, the roads were always undulating, which was considered a merit; but, in fact, the animals were always working up hill.

28. Have not the roads in this country, ever since the Committee on Mr. M'Adam's project in 1819, been vastly improved?—Mr. M'Adam has made very valuable improvements in road-making, and it is not on one particular point in which one cannot agree with him that he is to be condemned; there are many things he has established of the greatest service; he was the first who brought generally into practice the breaking-up stones in a proper manner.

29. Is it your opinion that a certain degree of elasticity, mechanically speaking, is necessary to prevent wear and tear on a road?—I should object to any elasticity that can be avoided.

30. What do you consider to be the best materials for a road?—The whinstone, I imagine, is the best of all.

31. Mr. M'Adam, in his evidence in the year 1819 before the Committee, states, that the leading materials are granite, limestone, whinstone, flint and gravel?—We have a great deal of granite in Ireland, but we find it imperfect; as a material, we prefer the best limestone to granite; even good hard granite we find inferior to tough limestone, and still more so to whinstone.

32. How do you account for granite in London being so much used, and being so durable?—That is a thing I have not been able to make out to my own satisfaction;

faction; I have endeavoured to try different kinds of granite, without success; I imagine that they must get a peculiar kind from Scotland, if it answers.

33. Are you aware that some of it comes from China as ballast, and some from Hudson's Bay?—I am not; I prefer whinstone and good limestone (for there is great difference in the qualities of limestone), and then afterwards granite; flints we do not much use in Ireland; broken pebbles are very good, but that will depend very much upon the nature of the stone of which composed.

34. The difference in your opinion between the granite and limestone arises from the peculiar sort of granite you get in Ireland?—I presume so; we have never been able to find it answer in Ireland so well as the whinstone; the basalt they get in the north of Ireland is better than the limestone; there is a great difference in the limestone; there is a white limestone but little better than the chalk.

35. You have before you a statement of several suggestions; will you favour the Committee by reading it?—I will beg to refer to such points as I have not yet adverted to fully:—

The small turnpike trusts seem to be particularly objectionable; their resources must be very materially reduced by the expense of establishment, at the same time that it is impossible for them to afford to employ the most important officers of all, namely, scientific engineers, and able superintendents of works; where such men are found engaged, it must be the effect of good fortune and chance.

The larger trusts again, though more favourable, are still under the disadvantages of being usually in single lengthened lines, whereas decidedly the best organization for a trust would be a considerable extent of roads in a compact situation, no part being very distant from a common centre.

There are, however, many advantages in the consolidation of the charge of roads in any way.

One office and account establishment will then do for the whole; a superior general superintendent of works could be employed, and more perfect mechanical machinery; the means will be more generally available, and can be concentrated where required, by which the works will be carried on to much more advantage, and a system of regular and rigid maintenance can be established so much more economical and beneficial than that of more extensive occasional or periodical repairs.

With regard to turnpikes, I entirely agree that it is a most vexatious and costly mode of raising resources for the maintenance and improvement of the roads.

It creates a perpetual impediment and interruption to the progress of business and recreation, and enforces a payment that, however small, is taken in the most inconvenient manner, while at the same time I can hardly think it so entirely just in principle as is usually imagined, for, excepting for the passengers on pleasure, the cost of the toll will always ultimately be laid on some article of consumption, or paid indirectly by other parties than the one absolutely travelling; a rate however upon carriages, and upon animals for draught or riding, would meet that objection to abolishing these tolls.

The expense of this mode of collection, including the profits of the contractors for the tolls, is very large, and would, I should imagine, greatly exceed (what must be set against it) the cost of collecting the necessary funds by other means.

A striking instance of the disadvantage of turnpikes may be witnessed in the neighbourhood of Dublin.

One district alone, that leading from the city to the south-east, is without turnpikes, the roads being maintained by a house-tax, and though very imperfectly managed, I never heard an individual residing in that district who did not deprecate the idea of adopting the turnpike system. The fact is, that property there is of a higher value in consequence, in a far greater proportion than to be counterbalanced by the road assessment. It is the side that on that account attracts in the greatest degree the establishment of villas, independently of any natural advantages it may possess, and is the habitual resort of most of the parties for pleasure, or a country excursion.

Another very perceptible proof of the discomfort and inconvenience of tolls is to be seen on bridges; putting a toll on a bridge is like putting the hand of death upon it; even in this great metropolis, while Westminster, Blackfriars and London bridges are scarcely sufficient to admit the traffic over them, you might suppose that the Southwark and Waterloo bridges were in a city of the plague.

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In considering the remedy for these evils, the first difficulty that suggests itself is the enormous amount of the debts of the trusts.

The public seem afraid to deal with them, and consequently allow them to go on from bad to worse.

The amount of debt is stated to be about 9,000,000*l.*, while the revenue from the tolls is not adequate for the current expenses.

It is impossible that this state of things can continue. It is absurd to say the trust has got into debt, let it get out as well as it can; the fact is, that the trustees are under no responsibility; the public must ultimately be the sufferers, and the sooner they put the matter in order the better.

If a system of revenue was established that should be secure, instead of the present, which must be considered precarious, the rate of interest might probably be reduced by one-fourth; but in the manifestly insolvent condition of many of the trusts, it is probable that there has been a depreciation in the value of their debentures or mortgages, and that they might be cancelled, and fairly so, at a lower rate than their nominal value, which would by so much reduce the debt.

It must be recollected that the public have a valuable consideration for this debt in the present roads, however it may be subject of regret that the former means have not been better applied.

I beg to add one or two remarks on the general policy of road works and regulations, without being quite aware how far they come within the objects of inquiry by the Committee.

1. Although the public are to a certain degree aware of the advantages of good roads, I hardly think that they are so fully aware as they might be made of it, by certain calculations that could be shown of the gain in wear and tear of carriages, in the expenditure of the power of the animals, in the facilities for business, not to say anything of pleasure and comfort, that will arise from every improvement in the construction and state of well-frequented roads; advantages so far overbalancing the necessary outlay for effecting almost any improvement as would exceed belief. This is supposing a considerable increase of expense were required; but, as far as the surface of a road goes, it would be positively cheaper, by a good system, to maintain a good road, when once made, than a bad one.

2. Whatever expenditure may be incurred for the cutting down hills, making embankments, forming new lines, and all other works, including ordinary repairs (independent of the advantages above referred to) is a resource of the most useful kind for the labouring classes. Whatever rates are levied for the purpose are expended in the same districts (that is, the greater proportion) and in manual labour.

3. Whether turnpikes are abolished or not, it would be very desirable to sweep away a mass of impolitic and vexatious restrictions that are laid upon the traffic in many parts. One of these is the provision for the width of the tires of wheels, which has led, for purposes of evading the extra tolls, to the most injudicious constructions as regards mechanical contrivance, and to the great injury of the roads they were meant to protect. The construction of wheels should be free from any restrictions, and what would be best for the carriage would no doubt, in a perfect road, be best for the road, or at least do no injury at all to compensate for such vexatious regulations.

4. Another regulation that might be reasonably abandoned is that which regards the weights of the loads; the number of horses should alone regulate the amount of toll, and, perhaps, in superior carriages, an addition on the number of wheels, as an item of luxury; and any increased weight that might be put upon the carriages to save toll would be an encouragement for the employment of superior classes of horses and for their maintenance in superior condition.

A few regulations for public safety and convenience might be retained, and their infringement made subject for fines or penalties on information; they would be effectually checked by the proposed system of road-police; I refer to the dangerous loading of stage-coaches, to the practice of dragging anything along roads otherwise than on revolving wheels (excepting down steep hills), overhanging or outspreading loads beyond certain limits, and other nuisances.

36. You allude to a district to the south-east of Dublin, which is without turnpikes, and in which the road is maintained by a house-tax; to what extent is that road?—There are a great number of roads, the roads in the whole district.

37. Do you know the amount of the house-tax in that case?—I do not know precisely what it is; but I believe that, though it is not at all well managed, they infinitely

infinitely prefer that to having turnpikes; the property is increased in value very far beyond the amount paid by way of assessment. One main line in that district is 12 miles out of Dublin, the whole way to the county of Wicklow, in which county there are but few turnpikes.

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38. What species of rate would you propose?—I would put it on houses and lands, and on carriages and horses; any mode of that kind would be preferable to the present. Another proof of the trouble and vexation that may arise from toll-gates may be illustrated by a case that occurred on a road in Ireland: lime for manure is exempt from toll; quantities of that material had to pass from a lime-kiln to a neighbouring town for sale through a turnpike; the quantity was great, and sold for manure as well as building; the question was, how far that lime was subject to toll.

Sir *Josiah Coghill Coghill*, Bart., called in; and Examined.

39. *Chairman.*] HAVE you turned your attention to the expediency of substituting any revenue for that collected by toll for turnpike roads?—Yes; I have been the last two or three years considering the state of the roads in Ireland, not in England. Many complaints have been made to me upon the subject. There was a petition about four years ago sent to Parliament (in 1832), on which I was examined before a Committee of the House of Commons. The complaint was, that there was a great deal of money raised for the turnpike roads, and very little laid out. I came to the conviction that the turnpikes were vexatious; the manner of collecting was highly improper; the way also they are put up to auction I considered highly injurious both to the public and to the revenue of the roads: in fact, it has now become a trade. One man, I know, has rented eight turnpikes in the neighbourhood of Dublin. When turnpikes are put up to auction, an agreement is made with those who go to bid, that if they will make no opposition they shall be allowed, themselves and families, to pass through, as also all carts belonging to them, free; the consequence of which is, he gets the turnpikes on more reasonable terms.

Sir *J. C. Coghill*, Bart.

40. You allude in this statement to Ireland?—Yes. I do not think that half the money required has been laid out on the roads by contractors, the roads being in a very deteriorated state, which causes a general complaint. Another complaint is, that it prevents all improvements. In the neighbourhood of Dublin buildings would be carried on to a great extent if turnpikes were removed. They are also most injurious to the farmers, as drawing their manure through the turnpike gates becomes nearly a rent. I refer to that turnpike near my house, on the Drogheda road: a load of manure, provided the wheels of the cart are three inches in width, pays 4½*d.* a load, if they are under that measure it is 6*d.* Complaints are numerous in every quarter, and the anxious wish of every one is for a substitution. The vexatious way of collection is to be deprecated.

41. In the first part of your answer you stated that a good deal of money paid by the public was not applied to the repair of the roads; do you mean to say that that was expended in the charge of collection, or in the mismanagement of the roads?—A great deal of it, I apprehend, goes in the expense of collecting, and much in the contractors' pockets.

42. A car carries a very small load?—Only about two pieces of balk, of from one to two tons. Clontarf was a very pretty little bathing-place, with very comfortable houses, but owing to turnpikes being erected it is now in a state of ruin; as the turnpike toll for timber is so extremely expensive, no one will send it through, and a car with a piece of timber of above 12 feet in length pays, on passing through, 2*s.* 6*d.* toll. I consider, if turnpikes were abolished, numerous bathing-places would be built on the north side of Dublin.

43. In your opinion abolishing the system of collecting revenue by tolls would benefit the landed interest?—To a certainty; so much so, that the farmers all round where the turnpikes are, say they would be very happy to pay a tax.

44. What would you suggest as a mode in which a revenue for the roads could be collected?—On the south side of Dublin (as Colonel Burgoyne has mentioned) there is a house-tax, in three baronies in the county of Dublin, where there are no turnpikes. The gentlemen and all the inhabitants where that tax is objected to have that placed on them. When a proposition to that effect was made, petitions were forwarded to Parliament to oppose a bill sent to have turnpikes placed all round the city of Dublin. I have formed a plan which I thought would be satisfactory to everybody.

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everybody. I propose to have all the turnpikes removed out of the county of Dublin Circular-road, and, where they are now in existence, to pay the expense of the repairs of the road. I propose that all houses in the city of Dublin shall pay so much in the pound; that the house-tax on the south side shall extend to the north, and where no houses are, the land to pay an average tax; and would also make all public carriages travelling out of the county of Dublin pay a mileage. I had this plan discussed, and have not heard any dissent to it.

45. You would prefer the system of a house-rate?—Yes, and also on all villages that are in the county.

46. Mr. *Fleming*.] Are you acquainted with the amount of the house-tax on the south side of Dublin?—I think it must amount to about 3,000*l*. a year, from 1,500*l*. to 1,800*l*. each presentment.

47. How much in the pound?—Some houses are rated from 5*l*. downwards, according to their valuation, but 5*l*. is the maximum.

48. It is so much in the pound on the value of the house?—According to value. The taxes I have proposed would be considered far preferable to turnpikes.

49. *Chairman*.] What is your opinion as to the expediency of consolidating turnpike trusts?—I think it is most desirable.

50. Do you think that you could consolidate the management without consolidating the funds?—I should recommend that each province in Ireland should have a board, and communicate with the board in the city of Dublin, which should have the chief control. I consider that the turnkpikes being taken away from the present trustees, and placed under a public board, would have a good effect, by employment of the poor on the roads where they resided, instead of persons being brought from other countries, which has been customary on some roads in Ireland.

51. Would you recommend that the central board should be under the control of Government?—Certainly.

52. Both as to the executive and the financial?—Yes; I think that would give more satisfaction.

53. Would you in that case make the country gentlemen subservient to the commissioners or to individuals acting under their orders?—Iwould not allow the country gentlemen to have anything to say to it.

54. Have you given your attention to the eligibility of establishing anything like a highway police?—I have been thinking of it; I am certain it would not do in Ireland, they are so different a people to what they are in England.

55. Have you turned your attention to the construction of roads?—No, but I find in general the roads in Ireland are too wide; some of them are about 60 feet wide.

56. What is the objection you have to that width?—It would require more money to repair them, as there would be a greater surface to go over.

57. Colonel *Rushbrooke*.] Thirty feet would be ample, would it not?—Quite so.

58. *Chairman*.] Are you of opinion, that, if you have a wide road, and no trees near, and you put your materials over 30 feet in the centre, having that width, you have a better road than you would have if it was not so wide?—In Ireland there are very few trees near the roads; 30 feet wide I consider ample; if it is too wide, the farmers would be leaving their manure on it.

59. You coincide probably in the evidence of Colonel Burgoyne with regard to the materials?—Fully.

60. You consider that the granite is not so good as the whinstone?—Yes, that I can speak to; on my property in the county of Kilkenny there is a great quantity of granite, and half a mile from that there is a gravel quarry belonging to me; the latter is always used in preference to the granite.

61. Is it rock granite?—Yes; they have to blast it; and I consider it not nearly so good as the gravel.

62. Has your attention been directed to the two systems of M'Adam and Telford?—No, it has not.

Francis Searancke, Esq., called in; and Examined.

63. *Chairman.*] YOU are a county magistrate residing at St. Albans?—I am; and trustee of several trusts there, and auditor of the St. Albans and Barnet road, which is, I think, the worst regulated road in England. *Francis Searancke*, Esq. 18 April 1836.

64. Have you directed your attention to the system of roads in this country and the turnpikes?—I have, for many years.

65. Will you have the goodness to state to the Committee your opinion as to the advantages that would arise to the community from altering the present system of collecting the revenue by toll, and creating some other means of keeping the roads in order?—I conceive the present plan of taking toll to be very vexatious; I conceive a great deal of evasion takes place, owing to the number of small lanes, where it would not answer the purpose of trustees to erect bars; I likewise think, that near towns where bars are fixed up, so that persons cannot get there without paying toll, it is a great limit to the exercise of persons in those towns.

66. Do you think that abolishing tolls, and establishing some other mode of revenue would benefit the landed interest?—I have no doubt of that, inasmuch as within a few years it was necessary to erect a new toll-bar at the northern end of St. Albans, and the farmers, in consequence of that, cannot send their corn to that market without paying a very heavy toll; in that degree it is lessening the value of land, and there is always an objection to paying toll; it is a sort of onerous tax which they do not like.

67. Have you turned your attention to any other means of raising the revenue?—I did some time ago; I recollect writing to Sir Henry Parnell upon the subject; I thought a very small tax, in the shape of a land or a house-tax, would be so trifling and so little felt, it could not be objectionable; and seeing the manner in which the tolls have been got rid of in the neighbourhood of London, of course the change of system would be equally at first felt in the country, that is to say, in the country they would make the same objection they did here, but that in the course of two or three years that objection would be entirely done away with, as it has here, where every one now feels satisfied tolls are very objectionable to farmers in carrying manure. Under a late Act of Parliament they are free in some respects, but if there is the least thing in the world attached to the cart, even a basket, they have a toll to pay, and it is very vexatious, and increases the expense on the farmers generally.

68. You think, that for the benefit of the community at large, and of individuals, it would be desirable to alter the system?—Yes; the expenses are now so heavy; and so is the management of the gates. The tolls are a tax on every one, and their abolition would be felt with great pleasure by everybody; the wasteful expenditure is felt.

69. Have you considered the amount the public loses, by the difference between that which finds its way into the pockets of the trustees, and that paid by the public?—Had I been aware that that question would be asked, I could have made myself master of it, being auditor of the road, but the difference is enormous; every account of the trust passes through my hands, and I have perceived that there is a very large difference, it is enormous.

70. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Can you state the general proportion?—No, I do not think I can at the present moment, but it is very considerable.

71. *Chairman.*] Have you considered the expediency of consolidating the funds and management of the trusts?—I have, for many years, and have written several letters upon the subject. I have been a trustee I think for twenty years and more of the different trusts, and have given up a great deal of my time to it, particularly since Sir Henry Parnell has taken the interest he has in the Holyhead road. I have always recommended a consolidation of the trusts, the present plan of small trusts is so expensive in its machinery; I think the expense of twenty trusts, under good management, would not exceed that of one. I mean the officers and the servants of the trusts.

72. Are you of opinion, that the management of the executive, as well as the financial, should be in the hands of the Government, in preference to the country gentlemen?—Certainly; I think if the country gentlemen could be formed as deputy or sub-commissioners they might be brought into use, but if gentlemen are to be selected without giving them some more interest than merely giving up their time, I think they will be then the same inefficient persons they are now, because every gentleman who acts as trustee or most gentlemen who act as

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trustees have local interests, and gentlemen are scarcely aware of the effect of that.

73. You do not think that the intervention of commissioners dependent on Government would annoy the country gentlemen?—It might, in the first instance; but I think it will have the same effect the Poor Law Consolidation has had; that would very soon wear off, and they would be glad of it; for every trustee is asked to give his assistance to answer some end; and if he does not do it, his neighbour is angry with him; and gentlemen are very apt to look to the interests of their neighbours. We have difficulty in getting trustees to do the business. When there are few they do the business very well; but when there are many, we generally consider they have some local interest to serve.

74. Have you turned your attention to the expediency of having an establishment like a highway police?—I have; and if the Local Bill for the St. Albans and Barnet road, which passed five years ago, can be referred to, the very clause will be found introduced there. It was a clause to empower the trustees to erect mile-houses. A house on each mile is recommended, and it was proposed there that houses might be built on each mile, and that in each of those houses a man conversant with the business of the road as a good labourer should live, and that he should be sworn in as a special constable to attend to nothing besides the local interests of the roads, and anything that might occur upon that road; but not to have power beyond the road.

75. To work upon the road, and still to act as a constable if necessary?—Yes, a constable on the road, but not off the road.

76. This man to be considered as a labourer on the road, and not to act as a policeman; to be on duty so far, but only to act as a special constable if his services were required?—Yes, on the road; but not on any other district but the road; to be on the road as constable as well as labourer; to be constituted local constables in that district containing only the road.

77. You do not apprehend that his acting as constable would interfere with his duties as a labourer?—Not the least; we have many cases of gipsys, forming lodgments by the side of the road, and of farmers laying down their dung on the road; men quarrelling and fighting in carts, and stopping the traffic on the road; then those constables or mile-men could interfere and take charge of them, if necessary.

78. Colonel *Rushbrooke*.] Did you intend that there should be a cottage every mile in your proposition?—Yes; my object in introducing this was, that each man should have his particular mile to attend to, as the foreman; and that under him there would be one, two, three or four persons subordinates, and he would be under the control of the surveyor.

79. Have you put that into practice?—No; it was struck out by the Chairman of Committees in the House of Lords.

80. *Chairman*.] Are you aware that the evidence before the Committee of the House of Lords three years ago recommended that measure?—I am not.

81. Mr. *Fleming*.] Do not you think the expense of erecting a house at every mile would be very great?—No; it would be a saving to the trust; if a house fit for a labouring resident, it could be built in our county for from 50 *l.* to 60 *l.*, with brick.

82. *Chairman*.] Admitting that tolls were done away, might not the toll-houses be applied to the purpose?—Yes; I maintain that it would be an economical thing; because our poor people in all our neighbourhood pay at least 2 *s.* a week for cottages; and they would pay a good interest to the trustees for any money they might borrow; then they will have the men completely under their control, and know where to find them.

83. Colonel *Rushbrooke*.] You would deduct the house-rent from their wages?—Yes, certainly. I have a good deal of cottage property, and I know that a very good cottage may be built for 50 *l.* I have built some with chalk for 30 *l.*, covered with slates.

84. Mr. *Fleming*.] How many bedchambers?—Two bedchambers always; I never build without; and a room and a back room; four rooms, in fact.

85. *Chairman*.] Would the necessity of having mile-houses be superseded by doing away the toll-houses; could not you put two or three of these labourers in one toll-house?—They would, in my opinion, act as a barrack; and if we could get single men, or men without families, they might answer; but I think where there are families, it might be attended with inconvenience. I think that cottages would

would be the most convenient, for there should be one on each mile; and the amount of their rent might be deducted from their wages; they would still be glad of them.

86. Mr. *Fleming*.] What do you calculate the wages?—We have lately raised the wages of our better men to 13 *s*. a week. I introduced the idea of mile-men, which Sir James M'Adam has since carried into effect. In some districts we give them 1 *s*. extra. I never wish to see a labourer on the road at less than 11 *s*.; for if they have less they will rob the trust.

87. Colonel *Rushbrooke*.] Do you mulct them if they have not done their quota?—No, we do not; we discharge them if they do not do their duty; I have a weekly account brought to me to audit, and in that I commonly see how many there are on the road, and the work they have done.

88. Do you coincide in the opinion given by Sir James M'Adam, when he is asked as to the hours the labourers are employed?—From six to six is considered their time on the road; of course they have some distance to come, and therefore we allow a reasonable time for his coming from his residence to the place where he works; in the winter, of course, from dark to dark; and we make a practice, in winter months, of requiring of the men to come breakfasted, even if they come a quarter or half an hour later, and not to leave off their work again to breakfast; the mornings are so dark that they have not otherwise above an hour or three-quarters of an hour before they cease to work"?—Exactly; that is the plan we adopt.

89. Mr. *Long*.] The duties of these mile-men are to be confined, in your view, to the road; would they be exceedingly useful by observing bad characters along the roads; in leading to the detection of offences?—Yes; I think they should have all the duty on the road; everything that occurs on the road; if a man walks along he has got the eyes of these men cast towards him.

90. *Chairman*.] Do you not think the employment of these mile-men, by adding to the number of men employed on the road, would lessen the poors'-rate?—Yes; I think where there is a responsible man of that sort, as a mile-man, he having, in some degree, the control of others, subject to the control of the surveyor, he being with those men, will get a much greater proportion of work done than if there were not such a man, like a corporal, above them. When we first established the mile-men on our road, I went into the centre of the road myself, and told them they held their situations as long as they did their duty effectually; and they were not only to do their duty themselves, but to make others placed under them do their duty, and that the instant they did not they would be removed off the road, and that men of good character only would be selected to take their places; so that it is something they look up to.

91. Mr. *Long*.] Supposing convenient cottages were erected, do not you think the fear of the commissioners turning them out of their cottages would be a great check upon them?—Yes; it makes them men of importance, and they would preserve that.

92. Have crimes of petty larceny decreased in consequence of this system being extended?—I am not aware of that.

93. Would not the establishment of this system tend to the decrease of the county rate?—Yes, I have no doubt of that; these men would have a great effect in preventing crimes; if there were a horse stolen, the parties would be seen by them.

94. *Chairman*.] It appeared by the evidence before the Committee of the Lords, that great assistance was afforded in relieving the poor by doing away with the carting of materials, and employing manual labour where the materials were not at any great distance; do you agree in that statement?—I have no doubt that is very beneficial, we have carried it into effect in our road; we are making use of all the manual labour we can, instead of horse labour.

95. That must depend on the distance where the materials are?—Yes, if the materials are on the road, we put them on by manual labour, but if they are to come out of a field, then by horse and cart is the cheapest way.

96. Colonel *Rusbrooke*.] They may also make the deposits against the banks?—Yes, for the materials are not to be put on the road immediately, then it may be done in the same way by manual labour.

97. Your decided opinion is that the establishment of mile-men, and their being constables would tend to lessen the recurrence of offences of every description?—

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In my own mind, I have no doubt about it. I have spoken to a great many gentlemen for many years on the subject.

98. You think it would not lead to a great addition of expense?—No.

99. How do you reconcile that with the evidence of Sir J. M'Adam, that there is 2 *s.* additional given to the mile-men?—Because I think the importance of their situation is worth more; that there will be more labour got out of the other men.

100. Have you turned your attention to the materials used upon the road?—Yes, in the St. Albans and Barnet road, we are badly off for materials, we have no gravel near, but we have used the Hartshill stone, which costs us, I think, 22*s.* a ton; we covered 27 superficial feet with it, and found it much cheaper than either the flint or the gravel, which we get in the neighbourhood, and which was delivered to us at about 2 *s.* 9*d.* a yard. I had a small piece done with the Hartshill stone, and it lay there, I think, for about two years without covering; and the road, at the expiration of two years, was much better than the road at both sides of it, which was covered three times.

101. Do you not conceive that great advantage will arise in the consolidation of trusts, from the circumstance of there being, in the small trusts, competition in the purchase of materials; whereas, when the trusts are united, materials are obtained at a much lower rate?—I have no doubt of that; it was only last week we let a contract for the materials; the saving is enormous, if we can get them properly put on; our materials used to cost us an enormous sum, now they are delivered on an average at 2*s.* 5¼*d.* a square yard, it used to be above 3*s.*, it is 2*s.* 5¼*d.* for flint and gravel.

102. Making a difference of about one-fifth?—Yes.

103. Have you given your attention to the different systems of road-making?—I have remarked, travelling a great deal, that the hard substratum is always the best road: some years ago, when the Highgate Archway was made, they paved part of it; at the time Sir Henry Parnell and Mr. M'Neil were in constant communication with our trust; at first Mr. M'Neil had some square blocks made of silth and pebbles; I think they were about 11 inches long by five or six broad, and those he paved underneath; he brought one down in his chaise to show me; I said, "You are taking a great deal of pains and trouble to make these; why not lay the rubble and pour the grouting upon it?"—and they did that afterwards, but there is nothing like a hard substratum, a good foundation of solid stone well laid.

104. Mr. *Fleming.*] You agree in the principle of non-elasticity?—Certainly.

105. *Chairman.*] You think elasticity is injurious to the road?—I do.

106. You admit that the roads are vastly improved in Great Britain since M'Adam's plans have been introduced?—Vastly improved: when he first came to us, 16 or 17 years ago, our road was managed by one of the old-fashioned men who used to hold, that the larger the stones the longer they would last; M'Adam took them up, and on them he has worked, having a good stock to work on; I am not an advocate for laying stones bare, I would rather see a small proportion of gravel or something to bind them together; when those stones are broken to the size they want, they work in some degree into the substratum, which is soft, and that works up in some measure and forms a cement; the quantity of gravel should be very small.

107. You approve of the system adopted in London now, of taking up the pavement and macadamizing?—Yes.

108. Have you any further observations to make on the subject of the consolidation of trusts?—I have for a very long time wished it, in order to save the expense, for the expense of clerks, surveyors, and other persons attached to the trust is so enormous that I am quite certain that a trust taking the superficial surface of 30 or 40 miles can be managed for nearly the same expense, as a small one. Under the St. Albans and Barnet we pay the clerk at 120*l.* a year; we have sometimes two meetings a year, and sometimes four; I think there is a great waste of public money; there are three surveyors since last week; what the third was wanted for I cannot tell, for one good one is better; we generally come to the ground with so many; all these expenses would be decreased by the consolidation of trusts. My son is one of the county surveyors in Ireland, and I remarked when I visited, how a man can go over a great space of ground and attend to the great public roads; and I do not know why it should not be so in England.

109. In every point of view, both as regards the funds and the expense of aterials,

materials, you think a saving might be made by consolidation?—No doubt of it, an enormous saving. *Francis Searancke, Esq.*

110. Have you turned your attention to the general saving which would accrue to the country, by substituting another mode of collecting the revenue, as well as the consolidation of trusts?—I have not. 18 April 1836.

Jovis, 21° die Aprilis, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Lord Viscount Clive.
Mr. Ormsby Gore.	Mr. Childers.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	Mr. Fleming.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *George Dacre*, called in; and Examined.

111. *Chairman.*] WHAT situation do you hold?—I am clerk and solicitor to the trustees of the Middlesex and Essex turnpike roads, which commence at Whitechapel church, and extend to Shenfield, beyond Brentwood, in Essex, with two collateral lines to the end of Woodford, and towards Epping, in the county of Essex. I have a plan of the roads to show their connexion, which I will lay before the Committee (*produces a plan.*) The extent of this trust is 36 miles. Mr. *George Dacre.* 21 April 1836.

112. That is all in one trust?—Yes.

113. You were examined, I think, before the Lords' Committee?—I was.

114. Have you ever turned your attention towards the expediency of consolidating the funds and the management of trusts?—I have from time to time, having been clerk to the roads upwards of 25 years.

115. Will you state to the Committee your general impression with regard to the expediency of such a consolidation?—I have prepared a statement on the subject, which, if the Committee will allow me, I will read, as my answer to that question. I believe the following are the points which the Committee propose to investigate and consider:

1st. The expediency of consolidating the management and revenues of several small trusts into one trust, not exceeding 150 miles.

2dly. The policy of raising a revenue by some other means than by tolls for the support of the roads.

3dly. The possibility of establishing a highway police over the turnpike roads of the kingdom.

4thly. The eligibility of having a central board of commissioners in the metropolis, to control the financial departments of the several trusts, but not to have any executive power whatever over the roads in the management, which shall continue as at present in the hands of the trustees. Previously to offering any suggestions of my own upon these points, I would respectfully submit to this Committee the following extracts upon these points, which extracts are taken from the evidence given on oath before the Committee of the House of Lords in April and May 1833. —With respect to the first point, the expediency of consolidating small trusts into one trust, or of adding the smaller trusts to those roads to which they adjoin, I refer to the following evidence:

1833: 26 April, fol. 22. *J. L. Bicknell*, Esq.—I think the present system of local trustees the best. The correct and more natural division of public roads would be into main or country roads, and branch roads.

Fol. 33. Mr. *M. Irish* states: There are 342 trusts where the distances do not exceed 10 miles; that the whole distance is 2,333 miles; that on the average is a trifle over seven miles, but not one of them exceeding 10 miles.

Fol. 35. That there cannot be a doubt that the consolidation of trusts would be of service; that the consolidated trust would be more economically managed than at present. When a surveyor is appointed at a salary of 60*l.* or 70*l.* or 80*l.* per annum for a trust of seven or eight miles, he cannot afford to look after that trust. He is paid, therefore, merely for riding over it once or twice in the course of the year, and his duty is given to one of the labourers, who does the best he can for them. There ought to be one for 100 or 200 miles, and his whole attention ought to be devoted to it.

Mr. *George Dacre.*

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6 May, fol. 51. Viscount *Lowther.*—*Q.* Would you recommend any and what alteration in the road system?—*A.* As far as my observation has gone, I have found that the larger trusts have been the most wisely and best administered to the public. I should not wish to see the management taken out of the hands of the gentlemen who can locally superintend; but I think the great error and fault at the present time is the confined districts for which Acts of Parliament are procured. From what I have seen in large trusts or consolidations, if I was to venture to chalk out a plan to myself for the roads, I should generally say there should not be a road trust under 100 miles of road, or more than 150; the funds from such a length of road would enable the trustees to select the proper officers for the general superintendence, and to establish uniformity of management, and a more efficient mode of executing the business. Upon what I have seen abroad, and elsewhere, I think it a great advantage to have the local superintendence of the gentlemen in the neighbourhood. I should be very sorry to see it wholly taken out of their hands.

10 May, fol. 77. *James M'Adam,* Esq.—I conceive that among the evils of the present road law in the kingdom the principal feature is the number of trusts, their small extent and their limited means and powers. Were the roads consolidated in trusts of 100 or 120 or 150 miles each, I am of opinion that much benefit would be derived; better officers might be employed, and many other good results would take place.

Fol. 81. Had I the option of making the lengths of road, which must of course be taken as you find them, I should say 10 trusts of 10 miles, or 8 trusts of 12 miles: a quantity of road about 100 miles. What, in your opinion, would be the best distance from the centre for the consolidated trust to extend?—*A.* 20 miles would not be at all objectionable. I take the distance, considering the powers of the surveyor on horseback to superintend.——*Q.* Perhaps 20 or 25 would be the best?—*A.* It would; I should also suggest the expediency and advantage, were such consolidations to take place generally, that in a district possessing a certain number of consolidations, and five or six districts throughout the kingdom would be sufficient, that there should be placed a district general surveyor with a road office in the centre of the district; and that each of the consolidations should have a right to demand his service, skill and advice when the trustees chose to avail themselves of it; and that to that officer the whole of the annual returns should be transmitted.——*Q.* You think that great economy would arise from consolidating these roads (the Stamford and Wansford), both in the purchase of materials and in diminishing the expense of salary, printing, &c., and repairs generally?—*A.* I do. I think a great many advantages would arise; amongst others we should have, if I may be allowed to use the expression, a more disinterested administration of their affairs. It is quite true the trustees of the roads, taken generally, come to a meeting most zealously disposed to the good of the road; but each gentleman comes with his own improvement in his pocket, and, if there is a small meeting, generally carries his measure; whereas upon a consolidation road each line would be represented by its local trustees, and the consequence of that would be, we should have the benefit of a more extended consolidation of what improvements were first to be done.

I would here observe, that the arrangement of the trustees of the Middlesex and Essex turnpike roads prevent any works from being carried into execution until revision and confirmation by a subsequent general meeting of the trustees, while it insures the attendance and reconsideration of a full board to hear the merits and necessity of the proposed measure.

20 May, fol. 142. Would not a consolidation of trusts be economical in saving a large sum in the salaries of clerks and other officers?—Certainly, clerks, also treasurers and surveyors.——*Q.* To what extent would the consolidation be desirable?—*A.* Why, the trusts run so very differently in size, I can hardly name them by number of trusts. I can see no objection to any number of trusts, containing together from 500 to 1,000 miles, being under one set of commissioners.——*Q.* Do you think it possible to get the same body of trustees to attend meetings, when the distance of their jurisdiction would extend from 500 to 1,000 miles?—*A.* In speaking of the extent of miles, I conceive the districts within which the roads would be would not be distant from the furthest points perhaps 40 to 50 miles. *Q.* From the centre of the Star to what distance do yo you think their jurisdiction might extend, so as to insure the attendance of the same body of trustees?—*A.* Gentlemen now have to attend sometimes 20 or 30 miles. I think 40 to 50 miles would not debar gentlemen from attending. The meetings in such a case would be very few in number compared to what they are now; instead of monthly meetings, four at the most in a year, and perhaps if only two, would be better for the country.

31 May, fol. 147 to 156. Mr. *William M'Adam* gives detail for consolidation and districts, &c.

There can be no doubt but that it is desirable to consolidate all the smaller trusts, either by adding as many of them together as can be managed by one set of trustees and officers, or by adding the small trusts to the trusts to which they adjoin; but it is quite clear that such consolidation can only be well arranged by parties fully acquainted with the local and other circumstances which ought to regulate such proceedings. That any specific or definite quantity of miles should be under the management of one set of trustees, I think, cannot be ascertained or regulated by a board in London, for I conceive there is more constant superintendence

intendence and attention required in the 16 districts of the 125 miles of road under the care of the commissioners of the metropolis roads in the county of Middlesex than in any other 125 miles to be found in any other circle. That the control of the turnpike roads ought to remain with the present local trustees is the opinion of all the witnesses examined in 1833, and on the previous investigations; and that any additional superintendence ought to be in a board in the centre of the district, or in the lines of road, is also the opinion, I think, of all such witnesses. That there should be four general meetings in the year is also proposed by all the witnesses, and it is therefore obvious, by referring to the extent of road in each county, that the consolidations ought, as far as it can be done advantageously, to be confined to each county, or nearly so. If the magistrates in quarter sessions assembled were the parties to adjust the consolidations and be the superintending board, they might, if they considered it advisable, appoint the county surveyor to be the superintending surveyor, who, as he has to attend constantly to inspect the several public works in the county, could most efficiently, and at the smallest amount of remuneration, report quarterly on the state of the whole of the roads in the county, especially upon all the extensive works and improvements proposed to be effected, and until approved by the quarter sessions (if it be thought advisable), no extensive works or improvements should be permitted to be executed. The magistrates could then be attended by the officers, and have inspection of the estimates, plans, sections, minutes, and accounts of the district, &c. Any improved mode of general repair could be suggested by such board to the trustees and surveyors of the different districts, from whom the board would receive returns and explanations of their mode of management, &c.

With respect to the second point of inquiry, there have been many suggestions and plans proposed; some returns for this, and the consolidation of the trusts, were laid before Parliament in 1775, and at many subsequent periods; I believe it was proposed by some of such plans to remove all the toll-gates, and to take the requisite amounts for repairs of the turnpike roads in England (now amounting to about 1,500,000*l.* per annum) out of the counties rates; at other times from the highway rates, or by an addition to the assessed taxes, the post-horse duties, &c.; but they have been all overcome by the argument, that the toll for the repair of the turnpike road used by the traveller has been collected at the toll-gate from the party actually wearing the distinct portions of road used by such traveller.

3d point. The establishing of a highway police may be easily accomplished, and at a very small additional expense to the county. To a certain degree this has been effected, and is now practised in the Middlesex and Essex roads, where the surveyors, inspector of drivers of carts, &c., and the labourers on the road are furnished with printed directions (*copy produced*), instructing them to prevent drivers of carts, &c., from driving furiously, riding on their carts, keeping the wrong side of the road, &c., and most of these men are sworn in as special constables for the foregoing purposes. If cottages were erected, or hired, at every mile or so, and an efficient labourer selected to each mile (who should have the cottage rent free, &c.), a constant day and night police would be established at regular distances, and by having a small garden, &c., there would be an inducement for him to be at home, when not at work on the road, and he would have the opportunity of seeing what was passing on the road at his station, and he could therein keep the tools not in use, &c.

4th. A most efficient control has been invariably kept upon the Middlesex and Essex roads, the extent of which is 36 miles, all of it main roads, connected together and managed by the constant inspection of them by the local trustees, selected from the resident gentry, who thus see every day the works in progress, and that the money is being judiciously expended, the repairs of every portion of the road examined into, and a continued check kept upon the expenditure. The general, and the division, or district meetings, are appointed at the beginning of every year, and of all meetings every trustee has a printed list (*calendar meetings for this year produced*). The district meetings are held quarterly in each of the five divisions, at which several trustees in the respective divisions and others attend. No specific work, the cost of which amounts to 40*s.*, is executed until reported to, and agreed upon, at two meetings (except in case of emergency), or are any measures adopted (except as above) until proposed to and entered upon the minutes of these division meetings, or at a general meeting of the trustees, or are they ordered to be carried into effect until read to, reconsidered at, and confirmed by the trustees assembled from all the divisions and other parts of the

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road at the general quarterly meetings. No plan or measure, therefore, can be carried as referred to by Sir James M'Adam in his evidence, folio 83, on these roads, until it has undergone ample investigation, reconsideration and confirmation. As to the control over the financial department, it only requires that the attention of the Committee should be brought to the fact that the present control is vested in the party most interested in the regular and due receipt, as well as economical expenditure of the tolls, for they are chiefly collected from the pockets of the trustees themselves, because, as the present trustees are the landed resident gentry, they, and their tenants, the farmers, are the persons daily and hourly paying the tolls. An ill-repaired road, the number of toll-gates, or a high toll, though paid in the first instance by the farmers, are all taken into consideration by a tenant before he agrees for a farm; and therefore, in fact, the toll comes out of the owner's pocket, while the most efficient state of repair and improvements of the road are alike beneficial to both parties. No person, therefore, is more likely to see to the best consolidation of the trusts, the reduction of the number of toll-gates, and to the discharge of every officer whose services are not absolutely requisite, than the resident trustees and the magistrates; and the fact of so many of the trustees being brought together in the centre at every quarter sessions, I submit, shows most decidedly that if any further control is considered requisite in whom it ought to be placed. Although the present superintending surveyors, Mr. Farey and Mr. Ledger (who has the assistance of his son, Mr. Horton Ledger), are scientific and able engineers, no improvements of any magnitude are carried into execution until they have been referred to Messrs. Walker and Burgess for their consideration, who are authorized to suggest any improvements or alterations of the plans proposed. That is considered more advisable than to retain them permanently, while it insures the best consideration before money is expended on the works and improvements on the Middlesex and Essex turnpike roads.

The income of the roads would, I have no doubt, be fully equal to the expenditure, if the 1,132 treasurers in England and Wales were reduced to about three to each county, which could be effected immediately, and without prejudice to any of them, especially if such new treasurer was a banker, because a banker would be satisfied with the deposits accumulating weekly in his hands until the end of the quarter, when possibly the whole might be called for, and if there was any, even a small balance then left, it would probably sufficiently remunerate him for his trouble; whereas the present treasurer, who can make no interest or use of the money, expects to be compensated for his trouble, by at all times having a larger balance in his hands. It will be seen by the returns in the Lords' Report, that there are instances where the same person is the treasurer of several districts or divisions in the same county. Supposing he has 2,000 *l.* in hand as treasurer of one division, and the trustees of another of the divisions had borrowed 2,000 *l.*, the public receive no interest on the 2,000 *l.* in hand, but are paying interest on the 2,000 *l.* borrowed.

It is known to the Committee that there are now 15 Acts of Parliament, with 315 clauses for regulating or relating to the turnpike-roads, besides the enactments in the General Highway Act of last Session. It is difficult, unless the indexes to all the Acts are drawn in the form I have adopted (*Index produced*), to see under which and how many Acts the provision of any one subject relates. There are many clauses interfering with each other, and many requisite enactments omitted in the General Act, which are inserted in the Act for regulating the Middlesex and Essex roads; but as I have mentioned several of them in my examination before the Lords' Committee, folios 119 and 120, I need not trouble the Committee by again stating them, especially as there are many other suggestions given to that Committee by J. A Stokes, Mr. Hollis, and others.

116. What, in your estimation, is the expense of collecting the tolls upon turnpike trusts, in proportion to the whole receipts; assuming that your income is 1,000 *l.* a year, how much per cent. out of that income ought to be deducted for the expense of collecting, and how much goes in clear to the treasury of the trust?—The rent of the tolls per annum is 15,000 *l.*, or nearly so, and I calculate the expense of collecting; but that of course we cannot ascertain, as the tolls are let at about 1,000 guineas per annum.

117. That is one-fifteenth?—Yes.

118. Which would be seven-and-a-half per cent.?—Yes, about that.

119. You mean to say that 15,000 *l.* a year is the sum paid by the public to the collectors?—No; I should say the public paid the collectors 16,000 *l.* or 17,000 *l.*

120. £.15,000

120. £. 15,000 is what comes into the hands of the trust?—Yes, after paying the expense of collecting.

121. The gross receipts are 16,000 *l.*, and the net 15,000 *l.*?—Yes, about that.

122. Are you satisfied the gross receipts are not more than 16,000 *l.* or 17,000 *l.*?—No, nor can I ascertain that, for we always let the tolls; and, therefore, the amount collected is only known to the lessees. The trustees of the road let the tolls at 14,735 *l.* a year, and then the lessees are at the expense of collecting that money. We let the tolls at a certain sum of money, they being at the expense of collecting them.

123. What, in your estimation, is the amount paid by the public to the lessees of the trust, which lessees pay you 14,735 *l.* a year?—I should say they collect upwards of 16,000 *l.* a year from the public.

124. On what is your opinion formed?—I take it from what I know the lessees pay a certain number of collectors per week for collecting the tolls; and also that some few years ago we, in consequence of a combination among the lessees, had the tolls in our own hands, from which I am inclined to think, taking the interest of the money which they ought to have for paying so much in advance (we always have two months' rent in advance, for which they would be entitled to the interest of their money during the lease), that 1,100 *l.* or 1,200 *l.* a year is as little as they can make pay for the risk they run.

125. How many gates and sidebars are there?—Nine.

126. Perhaps you can state what each receiver pays, as far as you are aware?—We used to pay 25 *s.* per week to each man, for they go on to their duty at six at night, and change at six the following night. Some of them will take another half day, that is, they will stand till six the following morning, and then they would get more pay; so that it would require about 13 or 14 men to stand at these gates; I think it would take 13 men to collect at nine gates.

127. At how much each man?—About 25 *s.* each man per week.

128. Do you know how much that is per annum?—£. 910. for 13 collectors. Sometimes these lessees do with two or three men less than 13. One man will stand five days out of seven, taking day and night. In country gates there is no change; they change by the week; they have a bed-room, and their wives live with them, and if there is little traffic the wife will collect the tolls for three or four hours in the evening; and there is a slack time in the night, when they are not called out of bed once in two or three hours: one man can do that without having a relief.

129. That is 910 *l.* out of the 1,200 *l.*?—Yes, and there is the interest of the two months' rent in advance.

130. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Then, on the whole, you consider it takes 1,200 *l.* expense to collect 16,000 *l.*?—Yes.

131. *Chairman.*] Besides the amount of the profits from the receipts of the tolls?—Yes.

132. Mr. *Fleming.*] That is included in the 1,200 *l.* a year?—Yes.

133. What proportion is it of that 1,200 *l.*?—£. 300 or 400 *l.* I should say is the smallest amount they should have for the risk of losing 16,000 *l.*

134. *Chairman.*] Do you think the amount is less than 17,000 *l.* a year paid by the public to these lessees?—No, I should not. There is a certain party, or set of persons taking tolls, of whom Mr. Lewis Levy is the head, the principal party, and of course he never lets anybody know (not even his partners, more than he can help) what he receives.

135. Do you suppose any individuals would put themselves to the risk of having to pay 16,000 *l.* a year upon an uncertainty, without making a greater profit than 400 *l.* or 500 *l.* a year?—Yes; there are so many parties bidding for tolls that if they took an exorbitant profit, I think some of the other parties would take the tolls over their heads.

136. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] If I understand you right, you held the tolls in your own hands for one year?—We did; that was 14 years ago.

137. When you were the clerk?—Yes.

138. What was the amount you received at that time?—Without referring to my books I cannot tell.

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139. Then you had no certainty that you were not cheated by the collectors? —We had not; we had inspectors over the collectors, to whom we paid a salary.

140. Mr. *Childers.*] What was the event of the whole proceeding?—The event of the whole proceeding was, that we did not collect so much as we previously let them for by 700 *l.* a year.

141. What was the result next year?—We let them for 1,700 *l.* a year more than we collected.

142. Comparing the sum you let them for that year, what was the sum offered you the year before which you rejected?—I do not recollect; but we let the tolls every three years, and there has been a progressive increase each time. It was in consequence of a combination among the lessees at that time that the trustees said, "we will try what we can make of them;" and when they found we took them in our own hands, they were obliged to bid up to obtain the tolls, otherwise we should probably have retained the collection in our own hands; we have certainly found we let the tolls where the parties taking them have been great losers.

143. Do I understand you to say, that even in bye-roads you used to give as much as 25 *s.* a week to the collector, besides a house to live in?—Yes. You break a man's rest so by having him up for the 24 hours always at work, that unless the lessees paid him well, they would take certain portion of the toll; they would make it worth their while being collectors; and, therefore, it is better worth the while of the lessee to give him a good price to make him honest, for then he knows what he has taken at each gate, and he knows what amount to bid for the tolls in future.

144. Mr. *Fleming.*] To what cause do you attribute the falling off in the tolls under the management of the trustees?—We did not keep so sharp a look out, and my belief is that the collectors did certainly cheat us; besides, the combination is now broken through by an arrangement of the toll lettings, namely, if the parties do not come and bid to the amount of the former letting, you may receive a sealed tender of anybody to any amount that they may choose to bid, with no second person knowing what it is; consequently, if there were four or five parties coming to bid, and they had arranged amongst themselves not to bid against each other, a third party not known in the room might send in a sealed tender for the tolls, and take them out of the hands of those parties who had been paying a certain sum of money to persons not to bid against them.

145. *Chairman.*] Are you aware of this circumstance which has appeared in evidence, that the parties who usually in the metropolitan districts bid for the tolls, combine with each other, and if an interloper come in, they either bid against him, or agree to lower the tolls on the district where they farmed the tolls, so as to prevent any person participating in them?—That cannot be done to any great extent, because, supposing this occurred in a road adjoining mine, the lessee could not afford to lose much of the 15,000*l.* a year. In a small trust they might let the public go through toll free, by way of ruining a man who did not belong to them, but they could not afford to lose 15,000 *l.* a year, or the half or quarter of it; besides which, there is a penalty for taking any *greater* or *less* toll than what is imposed by the Act.

146. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] You stated nine gates cost 1,100 *l.* or 1,200 *l.* a year, and by your own showing, at the time the trustees took the tolls themselves, and did not let the gates, each man had 25 *s.* a week, and that amounts to 910 *l.*, then what becomes of the rest?—I placed the interest of the money on the deposits.

147. *Chairman.*] Are you aware of this evidence of Mr. Irish: "I have since been informed by a person of great experience, and perfectly conversant with this matter, that if all the gates in Sussex were let without any compounding, he had no doubt they would produce 2,000 *l.* per annum more than at present, and it may be fairly assumed that what applies to Sussex will not be found different in other counties"?—I am aware of that, but as to the word "compounding," I do not quite understand that. There are several operations which may be taken under the word compounding; for instance, many gentlemen residing on my road, rather than have the trouble of paying toll every day, calculate that they shall go to town five or six days out of the week, and give the lessees that amount, deducting five or ten per cent. Medical men, in particular, compound; they

they usually pass every day in a gig, at 6*d.*; they would rather pay within ten per cent. of what that will come to per annum, which is paid at the beginning of the year; gentlemen in their carriages going up to town every day do the same.

148. Is it your opinion, that assuming the system of taking tolls was done away with, and another revenue raised for supporting the road, that it would benefit the landed interest?—That would entirely depend upon this, from what source the other income is to be collected.

149. Supposing it to be a rate upon houses?—That will of course assist the agricultural interests.

150. In the course of your statement you have mentioned that a highway police would not be very expensive; will you give the Committee an idea of what the additional expense would be of turning milemen into a highway police, assuming you are a surveyor, or you overlook 20 miles of road from Whitechapel to Brentwood; what difference would that make in the expenditure for 20 miles?—A trifle only.

151. Will you just specify some of the particulars?—I should say that each milehouse might be erected at an expense of about 80 *l.* to 90 *l.*

152. Will you turn your attention to the yearly expenditure, assuming the establishment to be complete?—I should say that 20 miles could be managed for 10 *l.* a mile, or 200 *l.* a year.

153. Mr. *Childers.*] Does that include the rent of the houses?—Yes, I should say that would cover all expenses.

154. What would be the rent of each house?—I should say 6 *l.* a house; and supposing you took 20, that would be 120 *l.* a year.

155. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Assuming there would be only one house in four miles, there being four milemen, with a corporal, who would have a mileman right and left of his residence, what would be the expense?—That would require only five houses; I meant a house at each mile, which would be 120 *l.* a year.

156. *Chairman.*] You may have a man on each mile, but you may consolidate them into one establishment?—Yes.

157. Mr. *Childers.*] That reduces the expenses of the houses to 30 *l.* a year? Yes.

158. Then what is the other expense?—I should give these milemen 1 *s.* or 2 *s.* a week extra as for milemen, besides their present pay.

159. What do you pay your present labourers?—Twelve shillings a week.

160. That would be 12 *l.* a year more?—Yes.

161. Is it the corporal you propose to give 2 *s.* a week more to?—Yes.

162. That would be 25 *l.* a year more?—Yes.

163. Then you would give the milemen 1 *s.* a week additional?—Yes, if there was a house at each mile; or I should give him 2 *s.* a week without the use of the house.

164. What expense is there beyond that?—Not anything.

165. Then you do not have a man each mile?—No; instead of milemen, one at each mile, I would only have one for four miles.

166. *Chairman.*] You have answered the question as regards superintendence only; but the question was, what would be the additional expense of this highway police, not merely the superintendence, but the men themselves?—The milemen, I should say, I would only give 1 *s.* extra to; but to the corporal, the man at each four miles, I would give besides, 1 *s.* or 2 *s.* extra and the use of his cottage.

167. That would be 15 roadmen, at 1 *s.* each, which would be 39 *l.* a year?—Yes.

168. Mr. *Childers.*] With regard to the county surveyor being made the general surveyor of the whole district, do you mean of the whole county, because there is only one surveyor in the county?—No, only one.

169. Now, taking Essex, do you think it possible that the county surveyor, in addition to his present duties, could be general surveyor of all the turnpike roads in the county of Essex?—I should say, for the duties you would require of a general surveyor, he can do it; for as he has in his present capacity to visit most parts of the county, to inspect the county bridges and other county works, he could at the same time inspect any particular improvements that were proposed in that part of the county. You do not have great improvements, such as a county surveyor would be obliged to look at, occurring very often, not every year; I should say once in two or three years; for instance, our improvement in the building of Bow Bridge, which cost 10,000 *l.*, that would prevent our carrying any other great improvement into

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effect for two or three years. We have another improvement in contemplation at Brentwood Hill, which we cannot carry into effect for some time, for we should have to borrow money, which would be a great pull upon us. The extent of the proposed improvement would have a great deal to do with that question.

170. I understood the general surveyor would only act in case of large improvements?—No.

171. To the amount of 1,000 *l.*, for instance?—I should say 500 *l.* We never have an improvement carried into effect above 50 *l.* or 100 *l.* without the assistance of an eminent civil engineer; not but that our present men are fully capable of it, but we think, in justice to the public, we ought not to go by the opinion of one man when we expend a large sum of money. Messrs. Walker and Burgess, who are connected with our county, are always called in, for they are so well acquainted with localities and other circumstances, that they have information and suggestions, and we consider it better for our purpose to employ them than to engage a stranger, or a person not so well acquainted.

172. Do you think, in general, county surveyors are civil engineers?—I believe, invariably so; I should presume so from the nature of the works which the county surveyor is called upon to superintend.

173. Are they not frequently builders and architects?—They do not profess to be road-makers in a general sense, but still they must be engineers as to bridges.

174. Mr. *Fleming.*] Who is the surveyor in Essex?—Mr. Hopper.

175. Is he not an architect?—Yes; but he generally has the assistance of others as to bridges. I believe he generally asks Mr. Walker's opinion as to those points.

176. *Chairman.*] Will you have the goodness to state what is the amount of the expense of managing your roads, as compared with that of other roads?—I have only an opportunity of stating that, as compared with the metropolis roads. Certainly ours is much cheaper, in comparison with that of the metropolis roads. The expenditure for the year 1835 is not yet printed; but I have that for 1834, made up to March 1835. The expense of surveyors, and the salaries of secretaries, clerks and office-keepers in the metropolis road, is 3,365 *l.* There is a commission for collecting compositions, which I do without any charge, of 48 *l.* 1 *s.* 3 *d.*, and the Parliamentary and law expenses of that year were 1,002 *l.* 15 *s.* 4 *d.*, besides the expense of conveyances where they purchased the land, which appears to be included in the last item. For instance, the Seven Sisters new road is, "compensation for purchase of land, and compensation for damages, including the expenses for conveyances, and law charges."

177. What is your expenditure per annum?—The expenses of salaries and surveyors is 740 *l.*, and the law charges about 100 *l.*, a year, making a total of about 850 *l.*

Mr. *Robert Fuge*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *Robert Fuge.*

178. *Chairman.*] HAVE you given your attention to the subject of turnpike trusts?—Yes; from having been a commissioner on the Bristol road trusts, and from my practical knowledge as farmer of the post-horse duties for the western district, comprising 2,500 miles of turnpike roads.

179. Have you directed your attention to the expediency of raising some other revenue than by tolls, for the purpose of supporting turnpike roads?—I have.

180. Will you state to the Committee your sentiments upon that subject?—Before I give any specific answer as to the nature of a substitute, I think it will be necessary to enter into a detail of a statistical kind, as to what the present state of the different trusts are as to income and expenditure.

181. In the first place, have the goodness to state your opinion generally, as to the expediency of substituting some other means of raising a revenue for the support of roads than by tolls?—In answer to that question, I have no hesitation in saying, that I think the substitution of some other source of income will be generally beneficial. What that source of income should be would depend upon the amount required; but in examining the whole system of turnpike trusts, which has been the subject of my consideration for the last 28 years (and upon which I put before the public a little essay about four years since), I still retain the same views, that the impost of tolls is unequal and burthensome on the public, as well as on particular interests, particularly the landed interest. The landed interest, I conceive, is particularly affected by the inequality of tolls, arising from the numberless gates which are placed at different parts, and which are in many places

places very unequally distributed. I therefore should conceive that the nature of the substitute would depend on the extent of the sum required. In the present collection of the tolls, I believe it is well known that according to the Returns that have been made from a number of gates of the amount of tolls, it might very fairly be taken at one-fourth of the present income is expended in its collection. To arrive at that point, I should be perhaps better able to state it in the form of a report; but I will just advert to that point, upon which I have drawn up a few remarks.

By an analysis of the Returns for the year 1829, made to the orders of the Select Committee of the House of Lords, as printed 30 July 1833, it will be shown that the incomes from tolls, including sums due but unpaid, was - - - - - - - - - - - - £. 1,348,556

From parishes and other sources in arrear - - - - 106,737

Total - - - £. 1,455,293

The expenditure for that year, 1,499,568 *l.*:

Consisting of, 1. 301,900 *l.* for interest on debts.
2. 881,410 *l.* for labour and team-work.
3. 120,232 *l.* repairs of tollhouses, damage to land, &c.
4. 196,025 *l.* salaries, law charges, stationery, printing, &c.

That the mortgage debt was 6,578,815 *l.*, and the net debts (including the sum of 821,586 *l.* for unpaid interest), 7,304,803 *l.*

As improvements have very rapidly increased within the past seven years (from 1829), it is a fair supposition that the debts now amount to near nine millions sterling, and the estimated diminution, by the abolition of statute labour, from the 25th March last, cannot be less than 200,000 *l.* per annum of the income.

The income for England and Wales, as stated in the Report of 1829, is 1,309,014 *l.*; the number of gates 4,870, making an average produce of 268 *l.* 15 *s.* Now, supposing the collector's wages to be 12 *s.* a week (and in many of the large towns it would be 16 *s.*), besides the benefit of the toll-house as a residence; 52 weeks gives 31 *l.* 4 *s.*, 5 per cent. profit thereon is 13 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* to the renter, which together would make 45 *l.* 1 *s.* 6 *d.* for each gate, making a total of 219,515 *l.* on the gross income of the tolls, on which many very large fortunes have been made by the renters, where combinations have long been practised; and the profits must be large to defray such expedients, which renders it very probable that the loss may be 50 *l.* per gate, which would amount to 243,500 *l.*, or 12 *l.* per mile on the total number of miles of turnpike roads in England and Wales, which are 19,898. To this primary object of charge on the income by tolls there is necessarily appended thereto the charge of salaries to treasurers and clerks more immediately connected with this collection, and the expenditure on 1,120 trusts in the kingdom (which average 17¾ miles). Of the treasurers there are many bankers, who do not receive a direct payment as salary, but an equivalent gain by the balances in their hands. To ascertain this particular charge it is necessary to revert to the item in the abstract of accounts of 1829, viz. salaries to clerks, surveyors, law charges, printing, stationery, and incidentals; there appears a sum of 196,025 *l.*, which includes the salaries of 2,238 clerks and treasurers, and 1,389 general and sub-surveyors, being a total of 3,627 officers for 1,120 trusts; but as it is known that the cost of leases to the lessors of the tolls is generally defrayed by the trust, it is presumed that for each trust an apportionment may be made for the treasurer, clerk, law charges, printing, advertisements, and other items, of at least 50 *l.* each trust, forming a total of 56,000 *l.*, or about 2 *l.* 15 *s.* per mile. It may thus be estimated that the charges in collecting tolls are:

For collectors' wages and profits - - - - - - £. 243,500

A portion of salaries to treasurers and clerks, and for law charges - 56,500

Making - - - £. 300,000

To which there is still to be added the charge of repairs of toll-houses as stated, 63,968 *l.*, making a gross charge of 364,000 *l.* incurred on the gross receipt of 1,309,014 *l.* It is further to be observed, that in the items before mentioned, for

 salaries,

Mr. *Robert Fuge.*

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salaries, &c., amounting to 196,025 *l.*, a considerable sum entered in the analysis under the second head for labour and team-work, 881,410 *l.*, comprises the salaries of a great number of officers employed as sub-surveyors, it being a practice in many large trusts to have sub-surveyors for every 20 miles at salaries from 80 *l.* to 120 *l.* per annum; and, therefore, it is scarcely possible to obtain a correct estimate of the charge for salaries. Several large trusts have a general surveyor at a salary of 400 *l.* to 500 *l.* per annum, besides some six to eight sub-surveyors from 80 *l.* to 150 *l.* each. An instance I beg to present, where in the account of the trust rendered for the year 1829, the salaries of clerk, treasurer, and general surveyor, for 155 miles, is stated 959 *l.* 9 *s.* 9 *d.*, whereas six sub-surveyors were employed, and, not included under that head, whose salaries amounted to 700 *l.*, but which, by the system adopted by the general surveyor, were by him placed against the current charge in the estimate for repairing the roads.

As the above estimated loss of 364,000 *l.* by the collection of tolls would be a direct saving to the public by their abolition, upon any other source of income being substituted, and in addition thereto a further anticipated reduction in the general management of the roads upon their consolidation, I will beg leave to suspend the promulgation of the views entertained for such a substitute until the other objects respecting the consolidation of the trusts, the security of the debts and reduction of interest be submitted.

182. Mr. *Childers.*] You say the Return makes the clerks and their salaries 196,000 *l.*; have you made an estimate of what it ought to be?—I take it the sum would exceed 300,000 *l.* for the collection of the tolls.

183. Including the salaries of the sub-surveyors?—No; I do not consider the salaries of the sub-surveyors to be a charge attachable upon the collection of the tolls, for they form a part of the actual expenditure for repairs and maintenance; I meant to show by their not being included under the head which has been required to be returned, that there is no statement to show what the actual sum required for the repair of the road is; I therefore take 300,000 *l.* as the sum attachable for the collection of the tolls from the account rendered. I think it would appear from the Return that is made, that there are 572 general surveyors, and only 817 sub-surveyors, so that there must be a vast number more surveyors than can possibly have been returned; indeed, I can prove in three or four cases most clearly, that the system which the general surveyors practise of putting in the sub-surveyors' salaries as part of the sum per mile is certainly delusive.

184. Mr. *Fleming.*] Do you conceive there has been an intention to delude in that Return?—I do not speak of it as an intentional delusion, but I think it is not quite in the current course of business; I know upon the trust before mentioned there are five surveyors, where two might answer all the purpose, and, therefore, those expenses must be taken into consideration with regard to the sum required for the substitution of tolls.

185. *Chairman.*] In addition to that you have stated, what other expenditure arises from the collection of the tolls?—I am not aware at this moment that there are any other items.

186. Have not you omitted the profit made by the lessees?—No, I took that in in the first place; I confined my observations to the tolls, with a view of seeing what sum would be required for the repair of the roads.

187. Then your sum for that is 363,698 *l.*?—Yes, and I think it is very likely to be 400,000 *l.*; I have taken no little pains to ascertain the amount, and I am satisfied if there was a true analysis made of the amount, it would be found to be 400,000 *l.*

188. Mr. *Childers.*] That is independent of what you conceive is lost by the expense of receiving at the toll gates?—No; I have not adverted to that at all as part of the Returns.

189. What is the amount of that?—I call it 243,000 *l.* per annum.

190. You do not include the salaries of the sub-surveyors in the 363,000 *l.*?—No; they do not apply to the tolls; my observation upon the sub-surveyors was to show that the Returns made before the Lords' Committee could not in any shape be correct; indeed, the gentleman who analysed them stated how difficult it was to come to any sort of conclusion upon these returns; I therefore confined myself to the 363,000 *l.*, being applicable to the tolls, as a dead loss to the community upon the present system of toll collection.

Lunæ, 25° die Aprilis, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Mr. Childers.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	Mr. David Roche.
Lord Clive.	Mr. Fleming.
Mr. Ormsby Gore.	Sir Henry Parnell.
Mr. Walter Long.	

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Robert Fuge*, called in; and further Examined.

191. *Chairman.*] HAS anything occurred to your mind since the Committee last met as to the mode of raising a revenue for the purpose of repairing the public turnpike roads instead of by tolls?—I think the relief of tolls would be highly beneficial to all classes of the community, and that it is practicable, as it shall be my endeavour to show.

192. In your last examination you stated to the Committee your opinion with regard to the expense incurred in the collecting of the tolls; state to the Committee whether you are of opinion that the official returns do, or do not give the whole expense incurred in collecting the revenue by tolls?—I am quite satisfied that they do not, and that there are inaccuracies in the accounts rendered.

193. Mention your reasons for thinking they are inaccurate?—I could point out those inaccuracies in the official returns, if they were before me.

194. Can you state any particular instance within your knowledge?—Yes; it is the practice in a large trust, within my knowledge, that the salaries of the sub-surveyors are not included in the estimate of the repairs of the road.

195. Forming a general opinion, what would you say was the deficiency in the returns, arising from that circumstance?—I should think it might probably amount from 75,000 *l.* to 100,000 *l.*

196. Would you add that to the 363,000 *l.* already mentioned?—Yes; perhaps instead of 100,000 *l.* I should say 75,000 *l.* I should prove it in this way: by reference to the official returns, it appears that 196,025 *l.* for salaries, law charges, printing, advertisements and incidentals, from which, after deducting salaries for clerks, treasurers, law charges, printing, stationery, &c., as applying to the collection of the revenue, there would be very little left for the salaries of the surveyors, &c. But from the inaccurate state of the accounts, it is not possible to obtain any correct information upon the subject.

197. Do you mean from the inaccurate state of the accounts, or from the inaccurate state of the returns?—From the inaccurate state of the returns.

198. Then, according to your understanding of the case, the loss incurred to the public by the collection of tolls would amount to very nearly 438,968 *l.*?—Yes; I wish to be understood on that point; but I dare say the Committee are aware that the whole of that amount is not included in the accounts, because I include therein the expense for the collection of the tolls by the tollgate keepers on 4,870 gates, at 50 *l.* each gate, which would be 243,500 *l.*; that is for wages and the profits of the renter.

199. Will you hand in any statement you may have with respect to that subject?—

[*The Witness hands in the same, as follows:*]

Charge of wages and profits of renter in collecting the tolls -	£. 243,500
Repairing toll-houses, by returns - - - - - - -	63,968
Supposed for clerks and treasurers, in the collection of the tolls -	56,500
A further estimate, from the inaccuracies of the returns, and also for law charges for the leases, printing, advertisements, and other incidentals - - - - - - - - -	75,000
Total - - -	£. 438,968

Mr. *James O'Sullivan*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. O'Sullivan.*

25 April 1836.

200. *Chairman.*] WHAT are you?—I am a mail contractor.

201. Have you turned your attention to the question of turnpike tolls, and can you state to the Committee whether or not, in your opinion, it is an eligible mode of raising a revenue by tolls?—I have turned my attention to the subject long before I thought this Committee would have been constituted, and the result of that attention is a conviction that it is not an eligible mode of raising a revenue.

202. Can you state to the Committee your reasons for forming that opinion?—My reasons may be classed under two heads; first, the great expense incurred in the collection; and, secondly, the misapplication of the sums so collected in many cases.

203. Will you state to the Committee upon what ground you have arrived at those conclusions?—First, the great expense in collecting, which generally forms 25 to 30 per cent. on the gross receipts; my data for this conclusion is drawn from the following circumstances: that on the Limerick and Dublin road, and between Naas and Limerick, a distance of 105 English miles, the gross receipts may be said to average 165 *l.* at each gate; the direct charge for this is a salary to the collector of from 10*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* a week, with a house rent free; that is 30*l.* per year charged for collecting 165 *l.*, with a very probable addition of from 5*l.* to 10*l.* a year by the impossibility of so checking the collector as to oblige him to return the entire of his gross receipts; this expense is incurred on this line, though the system of collecting there is the most economical and best fitted to insure the return of the receipts from the collectors, of any practised on any of the other turnpike roads of Ireland: from my knowledge of some of the turnpike trust roads, the Dublin and Limerick being a turnpike property, one-third of the gross receipt is lost by the collection; for I know collectors renting those tolls at from 150*l.* to 250*l.* per annum, live in a way likely to cost an expenditure of 60*l.* to 80*l.* per annum for their support, and who have no other mode of procuring subsistence or supporting their families. I have known a single instance under the trustees' management of a gate, held for 20 years preceding 1830, at from 200*l.* to 240*l.* per year, to have risen by competition, since 1830, to 500*l.* per year, and the tenant of the last sum being quite able from the receipts of the gate to pay the said sum; thus it is evident that difference has been a loss to the public for 20 years, owing to the trustees, and other causes, not allowing a sufficient competition.

204. Will you state to the Committee the manner in which you think the funds are misapplied?—By the appointment of unskilful persons to superintend over and repair roads, employing many such persons for interested purposes, more than for their actual fitness for the duties to be discharged, or the work to be done, and thus creating an unnecessary expenditure, and, I may say, almost insuring a continuance of roads bad in construction, and not unfrequently impassable by the state of their surface.

205. *Chairman.*] Have you directed your attention to the means of raising a revenue for the maintenance of roads which you would suggest to the Committee, instead of obtaining it by tolls?—I have long thought that, in order to have the expenses of supporting the public roads in Ireland (and I believe there is a strong analogy between the roads of the United Kingdom) fairly apportioned on the classes of society benefited by them, the landed interest, or rather the operative farmers relieved from the unjustly excessive proportion of such expenses which they now bear, and the public in general from the vexatious consequences resulting from collecting turnpike toll, and the gross wrong of having not less than 30 per cent. lost by its collection, that a substituted tax for turnpike toll exaction ought to be risen,—which tax, I, with great deference, think might be fairly levied as a land-tax or acreable assessment for this particular purpose,—a house-rent rate in cities and towns; a tax on the gross receipts of all stage, and, where in progress, steam-carriages; and on post-horses and carriages a rate of mileage, even less than now paid as toll, which, in Ireland, the toll charge averages at about one penny seven-eighths per mile for every pair of post-horses, but under this assessment might be fixed at a penny per mile for two horses, and so in proportion for a greater or less number, with of course the addition from the post-office department of an annual sum equal to that now paid for tolls. The collection of this revenue thus divided and assessed, would, in Ireland, be effected at an expense of not more than five per cent., that is 25 per cent. less than turnpike

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turnpike tolls are now collected; the portion arising as a land-tax to be collected by the officers now called barony collectors, at the same rate of remuneration as they receive for grand jury assessments, namely, ninepence in the pound; and that arising from house-rent rate in cities and towns, and from the tax on the gross receipts of stage and steam-carriages, and on mileage on post-horses, to be collected by the excise department, which department would rarely require additional numbers for this increased duty, and would of course be amply paid by an allowance of five per cent. additional salary on the sum collected; on that portion derived from the post-office, there need be no expense for collection,—which portion, as now paid, is entirely lost to the public, being a perquisite of the owners or trustees of tolls, and never considered as applicable to the object for which tolls are at all warrantable, namely, the support of the roads. The consequences resulting to the community from this substitution for turnpike tolls would be, that the landed interest, now paying seven-eighths of the expense of keeping up the roads, and at a time that it is the most depressed interest and profitless occupation, would then not be subject to more than something near its just proportion, perhaps from one-fourth to one-third of the whole. The monied and mercantile interests, under a house-rent rate in cities and towns, would be obliged to contribute nearly in proportion to their wealth and business to this department; on the proper maintenance of which depends the value and stability of their property, and through which passes the elements of their industry and wealth, and without which they would be deprived, not only of their luxuries, but of the merest means of subsistence: and through the assessment on stage and steam-coaches, and on post-horses and carriages, those using the public thoroughfares, travelling for pleasure or business, would be obliged to contribute to the support of those roads that thus accommodate them, and all relieved from the vexatious impost of road tolls, and their vicious tendency to arrest the general business of intercourse, innocent amusement, and necessary recreation, and their further evils of counteracting mechanical improvements in vehicles for burthen, and preventing many of the industrious classes of the community from at all having vehicles for the recreation and benefit of their family, though by their industry able to defray the expense of such, were they not subjected to the daily charge of toll.

Jovis, 28° die Aprilis, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Mr. Long.
Sir Henry Parnell.	Lord Viscount Clive.
Mr. Fleming.	Mr. William Ormsby Gore.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Benjamin Wingrove*, Manager of Roads on the Chippenham, Bradford, and Trowbridge Trusts, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *B. Wingrove.*

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206. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] HOW long have you been engaged in the management of roads?—I have been extensively employed in surveying and improving roads for the last 20 years nearly.

207. Have you ever acted as a commissioner?—Yes; I was a commissioner of the Bath roads for about eight years, before I was appointed general surveyor, and then I resigned my official office as commissioner.

208. Have you ever published about roads?—Several fugitive articles in the newspapers occasionally, denouncing the old system; as far back as 1808 I took up the subject of roads, and endeavoured to draw attention to Mr. Lovel Edgeworth's plans, and subsequently I have published various articles; in 1820 I published Strictures on the Doctrine of Mr. M'Adam, and at various times other things; my Report on the Taunton Roads was published by the commissioners; in 1818 I published, in the Philosophical Magazine, an essay on roads and wheel carriages, which was copied or extracted into the local newspapers.

209. What plan of improving of roads have you in general adopted?—When I

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commenced the management of roads, I found that the roads in general were in a very founderous and bad state, and the first object of my attention was to give them strength and drain them; drainage was everywhere deficient.

210. In what year was that?—That was in 1817; I had been surveyor of the parish roads before that time; I drained the roads, and I pursued also the plan of bottoming roads whenever practicable, which I considered was a most essential part of road management, not only for imparting that strength which I found in most cases was much wanted, but also for improving the general system, including the form of roads, which is also most essential to their preservation. I found also that the sides were everywhere very defective, wanting abutments, and could only be improved by bottoming.

211. Will you explain what you mean by the form of roads?—The degree of convexity.

212. Was it too much or two little?—It was too much in some places, and too little in others; the form of road generally, at that period, was altogether bad.

213. When you speak of bottoming, will you explain what you mean?—I mean taking out the bottom, and laying in a pitching or paving, on the plan laid down by Mr. Telford; I have always thought Mr. Telford's mode of improving roads was the best; in short, his opinions have ever been my guide. I obtained the Holyhead Road Reports, and in all my proceedings, the principles of road-making and management developed in those reports have been my guide.

214. In point of practice, have you been induced to continue to act on that because you have not found other plans succeed?—Yes, from a conviction of the superiority of Mr. Telford's plan, both from observation and experience. I am satisfied that a road bottomed on the plan laid down by Mr. Telford may be repaired at full 15 to 20, or 25 per cent. less than a road where the broken stones are cast or laid down loose, without any prepared bottom. A great deal depends on the sub-soil certainly, but even over a rock I prefer laying down a pavement, if the rock is uneven in its nature. Where you lay it, you make a clear floor.

215. In speaking of the form of the road, do you include the breadth as well as the convexity, and the arrangement of footpaths, so as to bring everything into an uniform shape?—All these things are essential to a road unquestionably; but in speaking of the form here, I speak merely as to the degree of convexity.

216. Are you of opinion that it is right a road should be regular in its breadth?—Undoubtedly; a road cannot be perfected without it. All those things should be defined by rules; general rules should be laid down and followed; these rules may be adapted to different situations; of course there are some situations where we cannot have the room which may be obtained in other places.

217. A road should be constructed like a building, uniform and regular in all its parts?—Unquestionably. A great deal of the stability or the weakness of a road depends on the uniformity of its construction in all its parts. Where the sides are neglected, the road is more likely to get out of repair for want of abutment. I consider a road like an arch, which requires an abutment, because the heavy weights, in passing over the centre, press out the sides, and the substratum rises. If it is clay, it rises and forces the surface stone above out of its place; and even if it is gravel, it is still displaced if there is not a good side buttress to strengthen it.

218. Then would you make a road strong over the whole breadth from side to side?—I would, if the expense was not too great. The centre is undoubtedly the first consideration, for the greatest wear is there; if there is a sufficient breadth of central strength, that would in most cases, perhaps, be sufficient; but, generally speaking, the sides of roads, especially in clay and wet soils, require strength as well as the centre, and in some hilly positions, with bad under soil, even more.

219. In speaking of clay working up, do you mean the clay would work up above the stone?—I mean that it will not only sometimes work up above the stone, but that it will also force up the surface of the sides of the road altogether. I will illustrate it by this piece of paper in the form of an arch: the weight going over the centre of a road on an elastic sub-soil, raises or forces the road up at the sides, and makes the centre of the road often appear concave or uneven, when in fact the surface materials remain the same in thickness; and if the strength of the centre is not such as it ought to be, that evil is of course much aggravated.

220. Now, in making the bottom you speak of, of what thickness do you make it?—According to circumstances. If the road is one of great traffic, of course I make it rather thicker; if it is one of slight traffic, I make it lighter.

221. How

221. How many inches should you say?—I should say the bottom should be from five to seven inches.

222. Of loose stones or pavement?—I merely take inferior stone; I do not take superior stones for the bottom, but the common brash, or freestone brash; and in a chalk soil, where there is no brash stone to be had, I take pieces of chalk and hand-lay them, so as to secure an equal bottom.

223. Is six inches the average width?—From five to seven inches, according to the wear and tear of the road.

224. What do you put on the top of that?—That again would depend on the quality of the material.

225. Suppose a road of very great traffic?—In a road of great traffic I would put from six to eight inches above for the surface, and in some places, where the surface materials are of very inferior quality, even more.

226. And your rough foundation, do you throw that in indiscriminately or pave it?—We hand-lay it; that is, pave it.

227. What is the height of the arch of the road on the surface?—There are circumstances connected with that point which would vary it; if the materials are of a soft nature, I would give more convexity; if they are hard, such as mountain limestone, flint or whinstone, they require less convexity.

228. What is the common rule when the materials are good?—The general rule is, an inch in a yard, and an inch and a quarter; where the materials are soft, in a road of 10 yards width, there would be, in that case, six and a quarter inches rise above the sides.

229. What size do you make your upper larger stones?—They also vary according to the nature and quality of the stone; the softer stone of course larger; generally stones of the weight of four or five ounces.

230. What would that make in measure?—One inch and a half or two inches cube.

231. When you first began road-making in 1817, did you use small broken stones?—Yes.

232. Was it the practice of the country to use them?—Yes; while I was a commissioner of the Bath roads, we introduced the use of a ring for the stones to pass through, and we had gauges made for the superintending surveyor.

233. In what year was it you adopted the ring?—It was after I became a commissioner, which was in 1810; I think it must have been in 1811 or 1812; and long before that, on the Warminster road from Bath, the ring was, I believe, adopted by the person who had the care of those roads; I think I may say upwards of 30 years ago; he broke the stones small, and made good roads, but after his death his system dropped, and the roads got out of condition again.

234. What materials had you to use when you had first the care of the Bath roads?—When I took to them they were formed of very bad materials; freestone brash and blue and white lias, all of an inferior kind, were in use; no other materials were then in use on those roads, except on about two miles.

235. What materials did you use?—My first object was to strengthen the roads by improved materials, and I immediately introduced the Hotwell stone; in fact, that stone had been used before at my suggestion, in the parish where I resided.

236. Is that limestone?—Yes; the mountain limestone.

237. Is there not another stone at Clifton, which also makes very good road material?—There is a stone in the neighbourhood of Clifton which contains a large portion of iron, but I do not know that that is much used in road-making. I got several cargoes of that stone up to Bath, and it made a very sound road; but the difficulty of breaking it was very great; it cost us 2*s.* a cubic yard to break it.

238. Did it wear well?—I believe some of it remains where I placed it to this day, but it wore so rough that nobody liked it, and I was dissuaded by some of the commissioners from using it.

239. Though it was a harder stone than the limestone?—Yes.

240. What size did you break the stones to?—Not so small as they ought to have been, because we could not get them so broken.

241. Suppose they had been broken to stones of two inches square, would it have made a rough road?—To a certain degree it would have been rough.

242. Would not that roughness have been a proof of its superior quality?—Certainly.

243. How did you find it wear in comparison with the limestone?—It is vastly

 superior.

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superior. The streets of Bristol were formerly paved with it. It is called the Brandon Hill stone.

244. How did you find it wear, practically, in comparison with the limestone?—Very superior.

245. What would you say was the difference between the two, ton and ton? How long would so many tons of the one wear as compared with the same quantity of the other?—I should think one ton of the Brandon Hill stone would be equal to two or three tons of the Hotwell Rock stone.

246. Then of course it would have been a cheaper stone, though the breaking of it had originally been dearer?—Yes. On recollection, I believe I was only restrained from using it on a particular part of the road; and I think I should add, that the corporation of Bristol, or some other public body in that city, to whom the rock belonged, would not allow the sale of it.

247. You stated it made a very good road?—Yes, but it caused a vibration to the carriages in going over it, which made it very uncomfortable.

248. If the road were made with that stone, that is a coating of six inches thick, and each stone broken to a cube of two inches, would not it wear into a tolerably smooth surface?—Into a tolerably smooth surface it would.

249. Did you ever know a road that was perfectly smooth?—The roughness of the road is in many cases an indication of the durability of the material.

250. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] You stated that this was an iron stone?—Yes.

251. Have you been in the neighbourhood of Birmingham at any time?—Yes, but I did not observe the state of the roads in that part of the country. I have passed over them in stage-coaches, and found some parts of the road very rough, but I have not had an opportunity of investigating their condition or mode of repair.

252. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] I understand the great objection to the use of that stone consists in its roughness, which produces elasticity, and lessens the power of draught?—I do not think it has that effect. It has much the effect of a paved road; there is a vibration in going over a paved road.

253. Then it is not equal in point of advantage to a material which would wear itself into small particles, or portions, so as to reduce the effect of elasticity, and thereby the friction?—No, but it excites such a sensation in a person riding in a carriage, that it was very objectionable to some. Besides, from the hardness of the material, they probably would not be sufficiently broken.

254. *Chairman.*] I understand you to say, with regard to the drainage and bottoming of roads, that you require stone bottom, even where you make your road upon a rock?—Yes, I should prefer it, particularly under some circumstances.

255. In the evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1819, it is stated distinctly, that any hard substance under the road would be in the same situation as putting a lump of sugar upon a marble slab; if you rolled a rolling-pin over that, the lump of sugar would be crushed, and if you had a hard substance under your road, it would crush the superstratum to powder in a short time; whereas, if there is no hard substance, the road will be uninjured by the weight?—In answer to that, I can only say, that I do not hold those opinions to be correct.

256. The effect of the evidence is, that if you make a road upon a rock, you must blow up the rock, in order to make a sound road?—If you lay broken stones upon a footway in a street, or a pavement laid down as footways are laid down, and put a thin body of stone upon them, the weight passing over would crush them; but if you place the bottoming stone in a proper manner, that is, placing the larger surface downwards, and leaving the interstices to be filled up with smaller stones, they form a bottom, but not such a bottom as would produce the effect of a millstone, for that must be what is meant. If you put a layer of stone upon a flat pavement, which is what was done formerly in some cases, that layer of stone would be crushed.

257. Suppose I had a road which was upon a rock, like this table, if I put my materials upon that, is it not evident that these materials, by the heavy weights going over them, would be crushed?—It would require a greater quantity of broken materials to combine upon the rock, but the plan I have always adopted in going over a rock is to work it, and level it down; to make it rough.

258. Sir *H. Parnell.*] You said in a former answer, you approved of putting a pavement on a rock?—Undoubtedly I do, upon an ordinary rock; I do not say if I were working upon some rocks a pavement would be necessary, but I am persuaded it would be useful because it would give a regular uniform surface of a nature

which would assist in sustaining the upper stratum or surface of the road in combining and making a smooth road.

259. Now, in your experience from having made roads with broken stone upon a paved bottom, have you found the upper stratum of stone crushed in the way that has been supposed?—No; on the contrary, they combine together and form a regular surface; whereas, if on a soft bottom, it is constantly liable to sink in one part and rise in another, particularly if it is a clay soil. There is a new piece of road lately made in my neighbourhood, of nine or ten miles in length; a great part of it was laid down upon clay, and not only upon the solid clay, but even where they have filled up with a softer substratum; and the consequence was, that this winter there was not a heavy carriage that could go over it. I myself rode behind a loaded cart one day, and the cart at almost every step sunk into a hole. The clay rises up and displaces the surface, and they again cover that over with a layer of small stones; after a short time the clay rises again, they lay on fresh stones, and so they go on. There is a piece of road also between Glastonbury and Street, which was laid down 15 years ago, and when I saw it making, I observed to the man who was at work upon it, that it was a very expensive operation, and if he would look at it in the course of a few years, he would find that he would have to put on as much stone again. I believe there is two feet of solid material upon that road, and yet in the winter it is as soft as a cushion, from the want of a sufficient bottom.

260. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] It was supposed, in the question that was put to you, that the coating of broken stones resembled a piece of sugar upon a marble; but if I understand your principle right, the bottom does not resemble a piece of marble, which is smooth upon the surface, but it is of sufficient roughness to allow the upper coating to bind into it?—Certainly; it is so.

261. *Chairman.*] If you have a solid bed of rock, over which the road goes, and you are to put over that a flooring of hard granite, and you are to put over that a coating of nine inches in thickness, or any thickness you please, how can the surface stones, being hard, amalgamate with the substratum, which is also hard? Must not one or the other give way, or must there not be some crushing to make them amalgamate?—In laying down a road over a solid rock, it certainly would depend in a great measure upon the nature of the surface, and therefore, as I have already observed, it is better to prepare the rock, either to blow it or move it in some way or other so as to get at a level surface of the rock; not a smooth surface, but a regular surface across the road, and when you have done that I think it is even better to put a pavement. The road would be more sound, and certainly less liable to slipping or being uneven in its surface. If the stones were hand-laid, I think it would be better, though, to avoid expense, it is not always the practice.

262. What do you mean by hand-laying?—The practice is to lay down the stones by the hand, the same in manner as a pitching or paving with the broadest part downwards, and to fill up the interstices with smaller stones or chippings.

263. Would you confine the breadth of the stone used for this bottoming?—I make them as regular as possible, from three to six inches in breadth.

264. You use the rough stones in this way, putting the flat surface downwards, and the sides being rough?—Yes.

265. Between the tops of the stones, supposing them like inverted cones, there is a space?—Yes, and those must be filled up or broken in.

266. Would you make it perfectly level?—Yes, quite level; but I would fill up those stones to prevent their rising. For instance, if the stones are as large as my two hands, I would throw in a stone of half the size to keep them down.

267. You put the flat end downwards?—Yes.

268. By putting the pointed end upwards, and by filling them up in the way you have just stated, the sides would be so rough as to allow the smaller stones to bed themselves, and so to be fastened that they could not be crushed in the way supposed?—Yes; they could not be crushed, and could not loosen in the way that is supposed. The pavement-stones hold the stones used for filling the interstices, and prevent their slipping; in their united state they form a surface that will be tolerably level, but not so smooth as to cause the upper surface to be crushed by the weight of the carriages passing over it.

269. Then your idea is, supposing you had a rock, you would lay your stones by hand?—Yes.

270. In that case you think there would be no crushing?—No crushing whatever.

271. How do you explain that result, that there should be no crushing, as those

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stones are put with the broad surface downwards, rising up conically, with spaces between them, which you fill up with stones to unite them; how do you make out that they can go into those interstices smoothly without some substance being crushed?—If you put in small stones to fill up the spaces, some must necessarily be crushed before they dovetail.

272. Now, if you have a soft substance below, the upper coating will not be crushed; but when you have a hard substance for it to rest upon, the cones do not yield, and then the smaller stones which are used to fill up the spaces between the tops of these cones are brought down by the heavy weight coming upon them, and there must be a crushing upon the cones so as to fill up the spaces between them?—The crushing is very small, and it all tends to unite the body you want united, namely, the upper stratum.

273. Sir *H. Parnell.*] That is, supposing you have a sufficiently thick upper stratum?—Yes.

274. Now, you have stated you would make your upper stratum of from 6 to 10 inches thick?—Yes; according to the quality of the material and the usual traffic of the road.

275. In your experience, with such a stratum, have you ever known the stones crushed so as to destroy the road?—No; the road is always more lasting than any other.

276. Have you found the road crushed from heavy weights?—Not at all; we have lately completed a small piece of road near Bradford, which was bottomed in that way; it was upon a clay soil, and I threw a little gravel over the clay where it was a solid bed; and on a part where we have raised the road above 15 feet, as it was an object to get it open as soon as possible, I laid a quantity of furze on the loose or artificial soil, and paved upon the furze, putting a little of the old gravel, which came out of the original road, with a very little stone on the surface, and the road now stands perfectly well, though subjected to much heavy wear immediately after it was laid down, and it has now all the appearance of a sound smooth road.

277. *Chairman.*] How much longer would a road of this sort wear as compared with a road made of broken granite without bottoming?—I should say from my own experience, where I have bottomed a road in that way, I have found that one coating has lasted out one and a half upon an adjoining road which had not been so bottomed.

278. Are you not aware the preparing of it previously must be three times as expensive as if there was no pavement?—No; I have never found it so.

279. Take a furlong of road; what do you suppose would be the expense of paving it upon a general estimate?—That may easily be calculated; materials and the breaking of materials will be saved by doing it. I take a bottom of six inches, and I put upon that, according to the wear and tear of the road, and according to the quality of the materials, from 6 to 10 inches of broken stone; when I say 10 inches, I mean in roads with a great deal of heavy traffic and an inferior material; but where it is ordinary traffic and good materials, six inches will do; I mean six inches of broken stone above.

280. Then making your road in that way, you pave it with six inches of stone, and put six inches above?—Yes; there are six inches of bottoming and six inches of surfacing.

281. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] What will that sink to?—To about nine inches.

282. Then the whole upper stratum will not be more than three or four inches?—I before observed, that will depend upon the wear and tear of the road, and the quality of the materials; the bottoming must be proportioned, and the surface must be proportioned to the wear and tear of the road. A road where there is a vast deal of traffic would require a greater strength of bottom and a great strength of surface; but in the ordinary roads throughout the country, where there is not a great deal of wear, I should say six inches of bottoming, and six inches of surfacing, would be amply sufficient; but that again must be regulated by the nature and quality of the materials used for the surfacing.

283. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Is the sinking of the road from the subsiding of the materials alone?—No, from the wear and tear also.

284. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Then, from consolidation, the road does not lose three inches?—No, the wear and consolidation together. In the consolidation of the road, from the pressure above, a great many particles must necessarily be broken, and these broken particles will fill up the interstices between the pavement underneath,

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neath, and the whole will form a solid mass. That depends entirely upon the quality of the surface; for instance, a surface of the mountain limestone will not lose three inches, it will not lose more than one or two inches.

285. *Chairman.*] You have stated, with respect to the wear and tear, that a road upon this principle would last for say as one and a half, while a common road would last only one?—I would not limit it to time, but I would take it at once as to value; that a road with a paved bottom, upon the principle laid down by Mr. Telford, will save at least from 15 to 20, or even to 25 per cent.: I am confident of it, from my own experience.

286. Upon the principle you have mentioned for laying down a pavement by hand, you, in fact, would make a lower road under your upper road?—Yes.

287. And you state, that lasts one-third longer than an ordinary road?—Yes.

288. Are you prepared to state, that the expense of laying down this paved road by hand, and the double expense of the materials, is not much more than the ordinary mode of laying down nine inches of broken stone upon the road as commonly prepared?—There is not a double expense of materials; nine inches of broken stone is not sufficient to form a new road. The materials for the bottom are six inches deep, but that six inches in depth does not require so much breaking as six inches of broken stone would; then upon that I put six inches of surface in ordinary cases, and in extreme cases from nine to ten inches; that makes 12 inches of stone in ordinary cases; six broken and six not broken, instead of nine inches of broken stone; and what we save in breaking, we do not lose in materials; and the expense of hand-laying is very trifling.

289. With respect to the drainage, you are aware that what you have stated is contrary to the evidence before the Committee in 1819, namely, that it was a great object that the road should be drained, by having a ditch on each side of the road, no matter what the width of it was; that the ditch should be on each side of the road without having any connexion with the footpath, and the road should not be supported by any abutments; but, on the contrary, the drainage of the road should have an opportunity of running into the ditch; whereas your statement is directly at variance with that: will you allow me to ask if you have abutments on each side, and not a ditch, how you are to drain the road?—I am not aware that any question has been put to me with regard to ditches, because the road must be drained by proper ditches, either on the road side, or inside the fences. There must be a discharge for the water, either through the banks, or on the outside, where the roads are wide.

290. You stated you had abutments on each side; then, how can you have a ditch?—It drains through the abutment into the ditch; the abutments must drain into the ditch.

291. The road itself will not drain into the ditch?—The drainage of the road will pass through the abutments.

292. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Will you explain what you mean by abutments?—I mean that the sides require strengthening and draining more than the centre. Where the sides are weak, the centre of the road will be weak, and forced out of its place.

293. You mean to make abutments to strengthen the sides?—Yes.

294. To prevent the pressure outwards?—Yes.

295. Are these abutments made by embankment of the footways?—Certainly. The embankments for footways operate as abutments.

296. Do you raise your footpath beyond that abutment?—That depends upon the ground we have at our disposal. If it allows of a footpath and a ditch, it is better to have the ditch inside. In the west of England the roads are very narrow and confined, with high banks and hedges, and we are obliged to make the best of what ground we can get. If I were making a new road, I would put the ditches on the field side and have the drainage through the bank, for the more immediate the drainage is to the road, the better. In passing through the country in every part, except the Holyhead line, and other roads which are in a perfect state, particularly in descending hills, you will observe the sides of the road are in a very weak state from the drivers of waggons running their wheels upon the weak part of the road to save the trouble of dragging, and in order to prevent that, I would lay down what I call an abutment.

297. *Chairman.*] With regard to the convexity of the road, the evidence before the Committee in 1819 stated distinctly, the less convexity there was in a road, so that the water should be allowed to drain off, the better; and that nothing was more

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injurious to a road than such convexity, because it prevented carriages from quartering, so that they kept in the middle of the road; but where the road was nearly flat, carriages went to the left or the right, and quartered with perfect facility?—A flat road, if the wheels were cylindrical, would be the best, if you could make the water run off, and if you could keep it so; but it would be utterly impossible to keep a flat road, or to take a less declivity than I have mentioned.

298. I think the evidence in 1819 stated that a rise of three inches in the centre of the road was sufficient?—That was not my evidence.

299. Then your decided opinion is that the convexity ought not to be less than an inch in a yard?—The convexity must depend on the quality of your materials and the situation of the road.

300. Then you can lay down no general rule?—No general rule that I can adhere to in all cases.

301. Mr. *Fleming.*] I think you stated this bottom was necessary in all situations upon all roads?—I think wherever there is a weak bottom it is absolutely necessary.

302. I understand the bottoming is to give a fulcrum to the substratum, and to supply strength to the abutments; how can that be necessary on a rock? for if you have a substratum of rock, surely that will supply all the strength that will be required, and also the abutments?—If you build a house upon a rock upon a hill, you must make a level foundation; you must take out your foundation and work through the rock; it is of no use to put the foundation of your house upon the uncertain or unsettled foundation of the rock, or else there would very soon be a settlement in the edifice.

303. *Chairman.*] In the evidence before the Committee in 1819, Mr. M'Adam and some other witnesses stated that a road ought to have a coating of nine inches in the centre, and six or six and a half inches at the sides, so as to make the centre rise three or three and a half inches, and that the sides of the road did not want strengthening, quite the reverse, as nine times in ten carriages that go upon the road, from the inclination of the horses or the drivers, keep to the middle of the road, and, therefore, it was less necessary to make the roads strong at the sides than in the middle; is not your statement, as to the abutments and the road being strengthened at the sides, in direct variance with that?—I have stated the grounds upon which I have formed my opinion, and which I believe to be correct.

304. How is it possible for any weight in the centre to throw out the materials at the sides?—The weight upon the centre will force the materials out if the sides are weak.

305. Mr. *Long.*] With regard to the road you alluded to between Bradford and Staverton, which was made on a clay soil with your pavement of six inches above, and which you state has stood perfectly well, is the traffic very great over it?—There was a considerable traffic on opening the road, but we have not put more than a light surface coating; and with all the traffic in the winter, the road is perfectly dry and sound.

306. What I understand you to say is, that in a clay soil, where the bottoming is good, that is, a substratum of six inches, and six inches above, that the road has worn perfectly well?—Yes; perfectly well.

307. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Is it, upon the whole, your opinion that, where there are plenty of stones, it is cheaper to make a road with six or seven inches of pavement, and six inches of broken stone, than to make a road with 10 inches of broken stone without a pavement?—I should say a road with a pavement of six inches at the bottom, and six inches of broken stone above, is considerably cheaper in the end.

308. Is it dearer at first?—It is not much dearer at first; if the bottom is five inches thick, we save the breaking of that, and the difference in the breaking of that will be almost, if not quite, equal to the hand-laying of pavement.

309. Then it is about the same expense?—Yes; we get pavement laid at a halfpenny the square yard.

310. And you use any kind of stone?—Yes.

311. Any shaped stone, so that it is not too large?—Yes; the best form we can get.

312. Do you ever find these paving stones rise up to the surface of the road?—Never, if they are properly laid down.

313. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Did you not say the breaking and the paving were pretty

pretty nearly the same expense; breaking the stones small, and hand-laying, come to the same thing?—Yes.

314. Is it cheaper then to have a pavement of six inches as a substratum than to have a layer of 10 inches of broken stone upon the surface of the road?—I should think it would be cheaper, as any inferior stone will do for the bottoming, but there would be very little difference; a cubic yard of stone would cost six halfpence laying down, and if you break it, it will cost double.

315. What do they charge for breaking a cubic yard of stone?—That depends upon the quality of the stone; the inferior brash stone you may break for 5*d.* the cubic yard; if you hand-lay it and break it in, or what they call snowl it down, that will be less; it is rather cheaper, but a great advantage is, that it keeps the under part of the road perfectly drained, for the road being made in this manner, the water percolates and runs through, and that appears to be as great an advantage as any.

316. At the first making there is not a great difference between them, but the difference is in the duration of the road after it is made?—Yes; there is the great advantage.

317. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Where broken stone is laid upon clay, is not a good deal of that buried in the clay, and does not the clay at the same time rise up between the stones to the surface?—Of course where it is pressed down by the weight upon the surface of the road the clay naturally yields, and every inch of stone which is thus pressed into the clay must displace it, and consequently the clay rises, and, coming up, retards the progress of carriages, as I observed in the road at Glastonbury; even putting on an additional coating of stone of six inches, the clay will still rise above that, and so on.

318. So that you would make the road six inches besides the pavement?—Yes.

319. *Chairman.*] You mean that the clay will not rise when you have laid your cones?—I take care not to let the cones rise.

320. How?—I make a floor which the clay cannot raise up.

321. Do you put your cones close?—Yes, as close as possible at the base.

322. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] Broken stones laid upon clay is always a road containing a great deal of earth as well as stones?—Yes, it must of necessity be so.

323. And, therefore, much less hard and solid than a road made of broken stones upon a pavement?—Certainly.

324. *Chairman.*] How do you account then for Mr. Telford's opinion, that where stones for pavement are in the shape of cubes, that is the only real pavement that will keep above the earth, as no substance can get between cubes so laid?—Mr. Telford's evidence, now referred to, is in allusion to street-paving, and not to steined roadways, and there he describes these irregular workings of the stone, both as to the bottom and the surface; but in all work of that kind, and upon principle I should say, if you chose to go to the trouble and expense of working all the stone, so as to make it fit close at the bottom or base, it would be so much the better; but it answers all purposes of keeping down the subsoil in a turnpike-road to place the bottoming stone together as close as you can, and lock them in on the top. The subject may be illustrated by a work now going on in Grosvenor-place; they are raising the road by throwing in a quantity of brick-bats and old building rubbish, and mixing it up. Now, if they were to take those brick-bats out, and make a floor on the rubbish, which ought to be well rammed, they would have a sound road, but they are putting the whole in a mixed state; and that road, where it has been completed, is already sinking into holes. They are putting a coat of broken stones and pebbles nearly or quite a foot thick on the top, and that will never stand.

325. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] You have had experience of roads made in both modes?—I have not made them; I have seen both.

326. What is your opinion with regard to the advantage to be derived from one and the other?—It is an undeniable principle in road-making, that the more solid and substantial the surface of the road is, the longer it will last, and the less inconvenience there is to the public; there would be less dirt and less labour.

327. *Chairman.*] Are you aware, in opposition to what you have said of the evidence of Mr. Botham, of Speenhamland, before the Committee of 1819, in which he states that the state of the roads under the old system was such, that out of 400 horses, he lost 100 in five years, and since the roads have been placed upon the system of Mr. M'Adam, one-half of these horses have been saved to him; and also the evidence of the ostler, who stated that after the roads had been put into that state, he could discover that the horses came in much less distressed; besides

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other evidence before the Committee to the same effect, as to the extraordinary improvement of the roads between Bath and Speenhamland at that time?—The roads between Bath and Speenhamland were not all horsed by Mr. Botham, only a part of them, and I presume in his evidence he only alluded to that part which was under his care, because to my knowledge (a part being under my care at Chippenham), the roads had been repaired upon very different principles; but, however, the case does not bear upon this question, the circumstances are so very different. The roads in the neighbourhood of Speenhamland, and from thence to London, were formerly repaired upon so egregiously bad a principle, the convexity was so great, and the materials were used in so bad a state; in repairing, they only shovelled a heap of gravel and dirt in the centre, which threw them out of all form; the reducing the roads to a proper form must tend to improve them and save the horses; but, with great submission, I do not think that that can be ascribed to one individual; he had not the management of the whole of the roads, others had part of them, and others repaired them upon a right principle.

328. These roads were repaired upon the principle of loose stones?—They are all in a gravel soil, and therefore the water runs off a gravel soil; there is no water to rise underneath the road, which would be lifted in winter by the frost. If you have a road over gravel, and a road over clay, the road over clay is more affected than the road over gravel, where it is kept right.

329. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Will you explain the plan you have adopted with regard to the drainage of roads, in the formation of them?—In the road I alluded to at Bradford, we have cut through clayey strata from 10 to 15 feet deep in a hill abounding with springs; the foundations of the embankment walls at the sides answer for the side drains; I have cut a deep centre drain, and made these transverse drains [*showing a sketch on paper*] in the herring-bone form, which, running from the foundation of the walls, discharge into the centre drain.

330. How do you carry the water from your road off?—There is a surface water-way at each side of the road, which at the lower part of the hill discharges into large fissures in a freestone rock; these fissures will carry off any quantity of surface water.

331. Are the drains dug in the substratum?—Yes; the drains are all dug out of the substratum.

332. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] What do you use to fill the drains?—Stone; we call these drains fries; they are not covered drains of stone, they are blind drains.

333. Have you regular channels on your roads on either side, for carrying off the surface water?—We have where we can. There must be a water-table, and a communication from that water-table into the ditches at the sides, keeping these communications as frequent as possible, so as to prevent the accumulation of water.

334. Which passes under the footpath?—Yes.

335. Have you formed footways to your road?—Yes, wherever the commissioners gave me authority to make them.

336. Have you any rule about their height or breadth?—In general they should be as near as possible on a level with the centre of the road, but in some places we cannot accomplish that.

337. What width do you make them?—That depends upon the space of the road we have to dispose of. But we have seldom much space to spare, and the finances of the trusts have not always been in so flourishing a state as to allow of any expenditure for footways.

338. You make them an even smooth surface?—Yes.

339. By Mr. *Walter Long.*] What is the depth and breadth of these drains?—The centre drains are eighteen inches deep; these side drains are a foot or fourteen inches deep, and ten inches broad. The situation is peculiar; the hill is full of water in the winter, and in the summer there is no water.

340. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] Are many roads wider between the fences than are necessary?—In many places.

341. What do you do with the space between the fences?—I make them as smooth as possible, and use them as depositories for stones.

342. How do you manage your hedges?—They are cut with the greatest care when I have the privilege of doing so. Where the trustees allow me to keep the hedges, I do it with the greatest attention, and I am satisfied there is no money which has been laid out more profitably than in cutting hedges. They are all kept and well cut as it is possible for hedges to appear; indeed they are very much approved

approved of by the country; though they cost a considerable sum of money, I am confident by keeping the hedges cut and the ditches cleansed, a great deal of money is saved.

343. By letting the sun and air into the roads?—Yes.

344. Do you limit the height of the hedges?—I cut them as low as the owners will let me, and that is below the standard allowed by the Act of Parliament. I cut down three feet, seldom less, but I endeavour to preserve uniformity, if necessary, and if I look down a piece of road half a mile in length, I endeavour to make the hedges appear uniform.

345. Do you make them perfectly uniform as to height and breadth?—Yes, whenever I can.

346. What is your plan of cutting?—We cut them with a long hook; some men prefer a handle of two feet long, and some two feet and a half.

347. How did they manage to keep the line regular?—They have been so accustomed that they work by the eye. If I find anything that is irregular, I make them alter it.

348. Then your hedges are so cut as to be uniform in every respect as to their size and their height?—Yes, exactly.

349. As if cut by regular measure?—Yes.

350. I believe you are not surveyor of the Bath roads now?—No.

351. When did you cease to be surveyor?—I relinquished that post in 1826.

352. You resigned it, did you?—I resigned it.

353. Why so?—Party feeling was arising amongst a number of the commissioners, and carried to that extent that rendered it quite impossible for me and my son, who was joined with me, to continue them with any satisfaction; I therefore determined upon resigning, and did resign.

354. Has your plan been generally approved of by the gentlemen who have employed you?—In answer to that, I beg to produce a testimonial I received on resigning the Bath trust. It was against the wish of a great many influential gentlemen that I determined to do so, and I received this testimonial, which is signed by 75 commissioners of that trust, 20 of whom were county magistrates. It was prepared by five gentlemen, three of them magistrates of the county.

355. Has the expense of keeping the roads been reduced since you gave them up?—Certainly; this very testimonial shows it must have been so; I left the roads in a most excellent state; it was always a rule with me to keep up a very large stock of materials to guard against the effects of an unpropitious season; in the last year, before I resigned the Bath district, I consumed upon these roads (50 miles in length) upwards of 30,000 tons or yards of stone; of which, I suppose, about 7,000 or 8,000 tons were of Hotwell-rock stone, which were brought up by water at a great expense, and I do not believe there was then half a mile upon the whole trust that exhibited even common surface defects. When I took the roads, a great portion of them were under indictment at the assizes, at the instigation of the Postmaster-general. A great deal of the Upper Wells road which the Exeter mail passes over was indicted, and those indictments were withdrawn on my assuming the management of the roads, the Post-office understanding that they were about to be improved. On one part of that road, not six months before I had the management of them, the York-House Exeter subscription coach was upset in the middle of the road in the evening, just before sunset, and the passengers and luggage scattered about the road; and on that same line of road, within three years after I had the management, the contractors were enabled to accelerate the mail time a quarter of an hour between Bath and Radstock (nine miles), and I left the district in the state described in the before-mentioned certificate.

356. Have any considerable improvements been made in those roads subsequently?—Yes; since I left them there have been many alterations, and the debt has been thereby increased very materially.

357. New pieces of road, or lowering hills?—Yes; there are some new pieces; on the London road I suppose there are five miles of new road. On the western line also, the Upper Wells and Lower Wells road, there have been very extensive alterations made.

358. Have they been well laid out and well executed?—According to my opinion, not so. They have failed in a great desideratum, which I consider essential to road perfection; they take the same summit levels, for they have made very little difference; they pass over all the hilly country, when the same or less money than they have laid out in that patchwork of improvements, would have made a new

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road to Oldown, which would not be steeper in any part, or only a small part, than Fleet-street, and yet they have gone over immense hills, and spent a great deal of money, and the only summit level they have reduced is one near Camerton; I do not remember the altitude of that hill, but it is only the poll of the hill cut through, and may be reduced 10 or 20 feet, but not more, I think, so that they have failed in one great principle of road improvement. No new road should be undertaken without taking new sites, so as to take the lowest levels. If you take the same summit level, it is of very little difference whether you ascend the hill by a rapid inclination, so that it is not too rapid, or by a longer but less rapid inclination.

359. Going over the hill is just as roundabout as going round the hill?—Yes; these alterations are made upon this footing. Then as to the London road, in passing up a ravine at Box, they have made a new line, but they have taken the wrong side of the valley; they never looked to the difference of the soil or the opening to the sun, or to the more important object of improving the Chippenham as well as the Devizes line of road; they have taken the south side of the valley, consequently, the sun does not penetrate it in the winter months; and upon the south, the soil is a sort of sandy clay, which is the worst possible soil to work upon; the work has been pretty well put out of hand, but from the imperfections of site, slidings, and other defects, there has been a vast deal of stone consumed upon it, which, if it had been properly laid, would not have been required; little repair indeed would have been required.

360. What roads have you under your management now?—I have under my direct management the Bradford, the Chippenham and the Trowbridge trusts, and I am occasionally consulted upon other trusts.

361. Have the tolls been increased upon these trusts since you were surveyor?—Not upon the roads since they have been under my care; on the contrary, we have reduced them; we have ticketed gates at Chippenham at a loss of from 100*l.* to 200*l.* a year, and taken off gates at Trowbridge at a loss of 60*l.* a year.

362. *Chairman.*] What is your opinion with regard to the eligibility of doing away with the system of tolls, and substituting another mode of raising a revenue for the repair of roads?—That is a question which I have never entered into with that degree of depth and attention which would enable me to offer with any confidence an opinion upon it. I should say at once that the best way of raising a revenue for the roads, is to make those pay for them who wear them out. That I should say is a just principle, but there certainly are great objections to the system of toll collection. There is a great, a very great, loss in the collection of the revenue, but I have never been able to bring my mind to see that there is any feasible way of overcoming the difficulties. In the first place, the debts interpose, and that forms a very great barrier to it. If there is any mode of providing for the debts, then it would be possible to substitute a mode of taxation if the Legislature thought proper, for it must be done of course by taxation which would supply the purpose of the tolls.

363. In such a case you think a great expense would be saved in the collection of the revenue?—The loss in the collection of the revenue appears to be the great objection to the system of tolls, but which is the least evil I cannot say.

364. Have you ever directed your attention to the advantages arising from the consolidation of trusts and the management of their funds?—Yes; I have no hesitation in saying, that a consolidation in certain cases, and under certain limits and proper conditions, would be a very advantageous thing to the country, but if carried too far, then, under some circumstances, it would be injurious. For instance, unless you could consolidate the debts you do nothing, and if you consolidate the debts when very unequal, it is like forcing a tradesman who is paying his way and honouring his bills into partnership with a reckless and bankrupt speculator.

365. Have you ever turned your attention towards the eligibility of establishing something like mile-men upon the road?—I never have sufficiently to be able to offer an opinion upon it; but with respect to consolidation of trusts I think it would be very desirable to a certain extent, for I know many places where the tolls might be reduced considerably by consolidation.

366. Sir *H. Parnell.*] As you have had a great deal of experience necessarily of the proceedings of commissioners, are you of opinion that the constitution of such boards

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boards might be altered with advantage?—Although I know many trusts which could not be better or more economically managed than at present, yet, in its general sense, I think the system at present is vicious in the extreme. I think entrusting the revenue by taxation and expenditure of the public money to irresponsible public bodies is an evil, and therefore, I think some control over these bodies in some way or other is highly desirable.

367. Why do you say they are irresponsible?—They are virtually irresponsible; they do as they like.

368. You mean to say there is no tribunal which could take cognizance of their proceedings?—I do not mean to say that exactly, but the difficulties in ordinary cases, and of course the unwillingness of the public to meddle with any constituted authorities of this kind would be so great, that it in effect gives them perfect irresponsibility.

369. Suppose the trust does do anything that is clearly wrong, or improper, or dishonest, before what tribunal can it be brought to account?—I suppose if a clear case of corruption could be made out, it might be reached under the General Turnpike Act. There is a clause which imposes a penalty of 50*l.* upon every commissioner who misapplies money.

370. You mean by an action at law?—Yes; an action at law would lie against them, but it is impossible to be proved, and therefore they are to all intents and purposes irresponsible.

371. Have you found that you have been much interrupted in carrying on your improvements by the conduct of the trustees?—On some trusts I have, very much.

372. That is, when you have endeavoured to improve your roads, you have not only not been assisted, but have been prevented?—Very often. There is another great evil; a board of commissioners coming up and obtaining an Act of Parliament for making roads upon a certain proposed extent and plan; there is no authority, no control, no officer to see that that Act of Parliament is carried into effect; the road is often made quite different from that described in the application to the Legislature.

373. Is not a plan lodged in the Private Bill Office?—Yes, but that only goes to define the line of road, from which any deviation of 100 yards may be made, but it does not extend to the execution and expense, which are very important matters: the line they must attend to, but still they often make small variations, to suit individual or party purposes, which are very often injurious. Then the great number of commissioners upon a trust is an evil, and they are not elected from a certain number of locally qualified persons; and all commissioners should possess the qualification within the district in which they act as trustees. It often happens, too, that when a gentleman wants to carry a measure, he comes to the board and obtains an order to appoint new trustees, and it is not uncommon for an individual commissioner to procure the appointment of 8 or 10 or 12 new commissioners at a time. These things are evils to the country. I should think every man who possesses 100*l.* a year freehold estate should be eligible to be a commissioner in the district, and there would be a very easy mode of so electing these commissioners as not to have too great a number.

374. When you speak of some control over the trustees, what do you allude to?—A general central board, attached to which should be some scientific men. That would be the means of preventing a great many ill-judged schemes of alterations of roads being carried into effect, and consequently prevent an unnecessary increase of debt and expense.

375. What power would you give such a board?—I would give them sufficiently large powers to control, on some points, the local boards.

376. How should the local boards be formed?—By proper persons, qualified as before mentioned, and properly elected.

377. Have you any other information to give the Committee upon the subject of roads?—I do not recollect anything at this moment, except that I think the subject of tolls is very important, and by establishing a central board of control, the public might get relieved from a great deal of incumbrance, or at least a great deal of unnecessary expenditure, by inquiring into the amount of tolls. Here is a list of 14 trusts in my neighbourhood, and I have taken the amount of toll per mile received upon these trusts.

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	Tolls per mile. £.	s.	d.	
Trowbridge - - - 30 4 0 - -	87	10	–	
Frome - - - 43 0 0 - -	85	10	–	
Warminster - - - 28 0 0 - -	71	10	–	
Black Day - - - 19 0 0 - -	181	–	–	
Westbury - - - - 20 0 0 - -	41	–	–	
Devizes - - - - 26 0 0 - -	120	10	–	
Melksham - - - 9 4 0 - -	133	–	–	
Corsham - - - - 19 0 0 - -	117	10	–	in 1833.
Chippenham - - - 19 0 5 - -	89	–	–	
Calne - - - - 8 5 0 - -	190	–	–	
Bradford - - - - 9 3 10 - -	105	–	–	
Wells - - - - 44 0 0 - -	60	–	–	
Radstock, on Buckland Denham - - - 17 5 0 - -	108	–	–	in 1829.
Berkhampton - - - 22 0 0 - -	67	10	–	

These amounts of tolls are not all taken from the last year's returns; they ar now for the most part advanced.

378. How do you account for that great discrepancy?—From the power unnecessarily given by the Legislature to raise a toll without knowing what it would produce per mile, so that in some cases it must be too much, and in some too little.

379. In your opinion the trusts might be consolidated with very great advantage, and would bring down the cost per mile very considerably?—Yes, but the difficulty is in consolidating the debts.

Mr. *Robert Fuge*, called in; and further Examined.

Mr. *Robert Fuge.*

380. HAVE you given your attention to a plan for the consolidation of the trusts with reference to the existing mode of collecting the tolls?—Yes. I would beg leave to offer my views on that point, accompanied by a sketch comprising the constitution and executive administration of the affairs of the road under a central board of commissioners, to control the powers to be vested in the local trustees with whom the management of the several districts should be vested as proposed in my plan, by subdivisions of the kingdom, as herewith produced:

PLAN for the Consolidation of Trusts.

1. Comprising the constitution of a Central Board of Commissioners, and other officers.

2. The division of the kingdom into districts and subdivisions, and an estimated charge for the management thereof.

3. The executive powers to be vested in local commissioners or trustees, for the superintendence of the subdivisions and sections.

The proposed Constitution:

First, That a Central Board be established in the metropolis of London, with full powers to direct the management of the public roads of the kingdom; the number of commissioners to be five, of which His Majesty's Postmaster-general shall be president *ex officio*; two other commissioners to be selected from the corps of Royal Engineers, one a civilian of five years' standing at the bar, and the appointments to be by the Lord High Treasurer, or the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury; with a secretary and assistants, a civil engineer with a clerk and draughtsman, and an accountant-general.—*See* Estimated Charge, Nos. 1 & 2.

Secondly, The division of the kingdom to be in five districts; viz., north, north-east, south, west, and east. Each district, comprehending subdivisions of about 1,000 miles, and again divided into sections of 150 to 170 miles, under district surveyors resident on the spot, having pay clerks and foremen under them.—*See* Division of the Kingdom, and Estimate of Charges, No. 2.

Thirdly, The executive powers of local administration to be vested in commissioners or trustees, to be selected from the existing trusts, upon a qualification of 100*l.* in land per annum, or ——*l.* personal, and to be resident and within such section, or subdivision, not exceeding 20 miles from the appointed place of meeting; magistrates of the division, and incumbents of the parishes comprised therein, to be commissioners *ex officio* also; Peers in Parliament and Members of the House of Commons. All contracts for work and labour to be submitted by the district surveyor to the local bench of commissioners.

Improvements suggested, to be confirmed, and orders sanctioned for payments at the meetings of the local commissioners, as may be so arranged with the district surveyor, requiring the attendance of the general superintending surveyor, to be quarterly, and the proceedings

proceedings of the local meetings within the district to be submitted to the inspector-general for the future information of the Central Board.

The duties of each respective officer to be defined by the Central Board of Commissioners.

As a leading point in the general repairs and maintenance of the roads will be to effect contracts with unions of parishes for the employment of their superabundant labour, a very considerable saving of expense will be anticipated, both in the cost of materials and of repairs, and the superintendence thereof; consequently, from whatever sources the income shall arise, there will be no need of salaried treasurers in each district, as the receipts and payments can be effected through the medium of the branch banks of the Bank of England, or by private local banks, without any charge, and the distribution be made by the pay clerks of the road establishment, where 30 will do the work, which is now charged with 1,038 treasurers. The proceedings of each meeting of commissioners or local trustees being under the charge of the district surveyor, who is to attend all meetings of trustees, and report all suggestions for repairing and improving the roads, and to be accompanied by a draughtsman under the civil engineer for the district, having charge of all maps of roads, plans, &c. &c.

No. 1.—Estimated Charge of the Central Board.

	£.	s.	d.
Five commissioners, at 1,500*l.* each per annum, including house rent and all contingencies	7,500	–	–
A secretary and assistant	750	–	–
An accountant-general and clerk	1,000	–	–
A civil engineer and draughtsman	750	–	–
A solicitor (except for monies advanced)	300	–	–
Incidental expenses, house rent, stationery, &c.	1,200	–	–
£.	11,500	–	–

No. 2.—Charge of the Establishment for the Five Districts, estimated for a District of 4,000 Miles.

		£.	s.	d.
One inspector-general	£. 1,000 – –			
Travelling expenses	200 – –			
A clerk or accountant	150 – –			
		1,350	–	–
Four general superintending surveyors over 1,000 miles, each 500*l.* per annum	2,000 – –			
Travelling expenses, each 150*l.* per annum	600 – –			
		2,600	–	–
Six district surveyors over 150 to 170 miles, each 250*l.*	£. 1,500 – –			
Travelling expenses, each 75*l.*	450 – –			
Incidentals	50 – –			
		2,000	–	–
Six pay clerks, each 100*l.* and 25*l.* each for travelling expenses		750	–	–
One civil engineer and a draughtsman to be attached to the inspector-general, with travelling expenses		450	–	–
Incidentals for the district		350	–	
160 Foremen for every 25 miles, at 15*s.* per week, with a residence at a station-house, and to act as a constable in the rural police (per 4,000 miles) 160 a' 40*l.* p' ann.	£. 6,400 – –			
Petty incidentals	100 – –			
		6,500	–	–
£.		14,000	–	–
Five districts, at 14,000*l.*		70,000	–	–
The Central Board		11,500	–	–
Including the metropolitan trust in the eastern district, at the same charge, although only 400 miles, yet subject to extraordinary charges.				
Total		81,500	–	–
For extra incidentals, suppose		3,500	–	–
Grand Total £.		85,000	–	–

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	Total Number of Officers.	
	5	Inspectors-general for districts of - - 4,000 miles.
	20	General superintending surveyors of - - 1,000 –
	30	District surveyors of - - - - 150 to 170 –
	30	Pay clerks.
	10	Civil engineers and draughtsmen.
	5	Clerks to Inspectors-general.
£.		
37,500	100	Officers.
		The treasurers to be bankers in each district, at no charge.
		The clerks to attend meetings and keep accounts, may be the pay clerks.
11,500	12	At Central Board.
49,000	112	Officers.
1,000	- -	Say for extra.
£.50,000		

	£.	s.	d.
Foremen, 160 × 5 = 800 number - - at 40*l.*	32,000	–	–
Casualties, 500*l.*; Rewards, &c., 2,500*l.* - -	3,000	–	–
£.	35,000	–	–

Remarks.—The inspector-general to reside in the most central part of his district, having the civil engineer under his immediate direction, whereby any projected improvement may be well considered; all accounts to be examined and approved before transmission to the Central Board; contracts for labour to be sanctioned by the inspector-general, who shall quarterly inspect the district, and report the state of the roads to the Central Board.

The superintending surveyor, as second in command, to be under the immediate directions of the inspector-general, and have the district surveyors under his immediate care in all matters; and the six pay clerks to be under the district surveyor.

Each class of officers to be promoted upon vacancies, at the discretion of the Central Board, (and such as are on half-pay of the army or navy to be so continued with their respective rank) for promotion.

England and Wales.

Consolidation of the Trusts of the Turnpike Roads, No. 1,123, over 19,898 miles, to be divided into Five Districts:

North - - - - - - -	3,458 miles.
North East - - - - - -	3,905 –
South - - - - - - -	3,844 –
West - - - - - - -	3,954 –
Eastern, including the Metropolitan -	4,737 –

No. 1.—North District, into Three Divisions (now containing 212 Trusts), in Six Counties:

Northumberland - - - -	423 miles.
Cumberland - - - - -	275 –
Westmorland - - - - -	288 –
	986 –
Durham - - - - - -	441 miles.
Lancashire - - - - -	549 –
	990 –
Yorkshire, three Ridings - - -	1,484 miles.

No. 2.—

No. 2.—North East, into Four Divisions (containing 263 Trusts), Nine Counties, including the Holyhead Trust of 109 Miles, apportioned to each Division.

Lincoln	471	miles.
Rutland	48	–
Northampton	365	–
Part of Holyhead	28	–
	912	–
Nottingham	284	miles.
Leicester	327	–
Warwick	450	–
Holyhead	28	–
	1,089	–
Derbyshire	609	miles.
Staffordshire	820	miles.
Worcester	472	–
Odd measure	3	–
	1,295	–

No. 3.—South District, into Four Divisions (containing 155 Trusts), in Six Counties.

Gloucester	772	miles.
Wiltshire	550	miles.
Dorsetshire	393	–
	943	–
Somerset	914	miles.
Devonshire	866	miles.
Cornwall	349	–
	1,215	–

N. B.—Gloucester, in the returns, is stated 836 miles; it should be 64 miles less, which is part of the Bristol Trust, entered as in Gloucester, instead of Somerset.

No. 4.—Western District, into Four Divisions (containing 198 Trusts), in 16 Counties.

North Wales	821	miles.
With the remainder of the Holyhead Trust, say	30	–
	851	–
South Wales	1,234	miles.
1. Cheshire	449	miles.
2. Shropshire	682	–
3. Hereford	418	–
4. Monmouth	270	–
	1,819	–

For a more equal division, the whole may be thrown together, thus:—

North Wales	851	miles.
Nos. 1 & 2	1,181	–
	2,032	
South Wales	1,234	miles.
Nos. 3 & 4	688	–
	1,922	

Whereby four divisions may be effected, of 1,000 miles each.

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No. 5.—The Eastern Division (including London), into Five Divisions (containing 294 Trusts), in 15 Counties.

East Norfolk	288 miles.		
Suffolk	299 –		
Cambridge	204 –		
Huntingdon	61 –	East District	1,051 miles.
Bedford	189 –		
Part of Holyhead	10 –		
	1,051 –		
Middlesex	170 miles.		
Surrey	296 –	The Metropolitan and south of the Thames to be about	400 –
Kent	668 –		
Essex	266 –	The remaining parts in one district	1,160 –
Herts	150 –		
	1,560		
East Sussex	636 miles.		
Berks	280 –		
Bucks	179 –		
Part of Holyhead	13 –		
	1,108 –	South-East	1,108 –
		South	1,018 –
South Oxford	335 miles.		4,737 miles.
Hants	683 –		
	1,018 –		

Holyhead Trust runs through the following Trusts:—

In Salop: Stafford, Wellington District.
In Bedford and Warwick: Hockliffe, part of Old Stratford and Dunchurch.
In Herts: St. Albans.

The uses to which the turnpike-roads are appropriated, and an income is derived therefrom, are as follows, excepting the mail-coaches, &c. employed by the General Post-office, secured from payment of toll by the General Turnpike Act, on which particular instance the following estimate is submitted of the probable amount of toll that would otherwise be payable (taken at the average of one penny per mile) that would arise, if the General Post-office contributed to the repairs and maintenance of the turnpike-roads by that impost:—

No. 1.—Contracts with horse proprietors for the mail-coaches dispatched from and to London daily, is about - - - - 13,200 single miles.

By four horses, and for branch coaches on the cross-roads at the terminus of the direct coach from London, is estimated to be about - - - - - - - - - - - - 4,300 –

17,500 –

By two-horse coaches from London - - - - - - 300 miles.
Branch or cross mails - - - - - - - - - 2,200 –

2,500 –

By single-horse carts - - - - - - - - - 2,000 miles.

Exclusive of the single horses employed in carrying the twopenny-post letters in the circuit of 15 miles round London:

17,500 × 4 = 70,000 miles.
2,500 × 2 = 5,000 –
2,000 × 1 = 2,000 –

Or 77,000 single horses to perform daily the contracts of the General Post-office in conveying the mails throughout England, Wales and Scotland. Say, for England and Wales, 60,000, at one penny per mile toll, is equal to 90,000*l.* per annum, for that number of horses passing daily to and from the respective places with the mails or letter-bags.

No. 2.—

No. 2.—Stage-coaches.	£.	s.	d.
Duty on passengers carried, producing a revenue of - - - -	660,000	–	–
*Post-horse duties - - ditto - - - - -	240,000	–	–
Hackney-coaches to London - - - - - - -	35,000	–	–
Horsedealers' licences - - - - - - - -	15,000	–	–
	950,000	–	–
Assessed tax on carriages and horses - - - - -	650,000	–	–
Total - - - £.	1,600,000	–	–

N.B.—The average toll per horse, throughout England, being nearly one penny per hour.

No. 3.—Horses conveying the produce of the land to market, stone, timber, corn, cattle, beasts, sheep, pigs, bringing back lime, &c. &c.

No. 4.—Horses used in waggons, stage carts, conveying home and foreign produce from town to town, building materials.

N.B.—The average of toll paid by heavy waggons is about one penny per horse per mile.

Note.—Railways pay only one-half the stage-coach duty.

* The duties are let to farm for one year only to 31st January 1837, it being the intention of Government to abolish the system of farming, and it is said to collect a duty per horse by the Excise department.

381. Is it your opinion that a board of control would be necessary or desirable upon the consolidations of the trusts?—I consider such most desirable. The general opinion of the public being in favour of the necessity for placing the turnpike roads of the kingdom under a more efficient management and control, and such views being now under the immediate consideration of His Majesty's Government, I would observe that, connected with this subject, my attention for seven years past has been directed in suggesting to the successive Administrations of His Majesty's Government, the annexation of the collection of the duties and taxes imposed on all horses used in travelling to some other department of the revenue than the Stamps (where they are now collected), whereby the inspection of the roads might be more effectually carried on at a considerable saving of expense, by a union with the General Post-office department; if such be effected, it would tend to confirm my opinion of a reduction in the onerous charge now incurred by the public for repairs and maintenance of the turnpike or public roads. The Government has no interest in the funds now collected for the roads, but a very deep interest in the collection of a revenue of above two millions sterling, by the transit of postage communication throughout the empire, which the maintenance of good roads daily exemplifies, and which it is so necessary for its better continuance, and more particularly so in anticipation of the increased acceleration of speed in the conveyance of postage communication by railways, requiring a greater attention to keeping up roads for the branch or cross mail-coaches to become tributary streams into the main trunks of railways. For the revenue collected by the General Post-office, by the uses of the public roads, whereon the horse contractors are not subject to the payment of tolls, it would appear, upon an investigation, that such exemption occasions a heavier burthen in some trusts, where they are obliged to keep their roads in as good a state of repair for the sole purpose of enabling the mail-coaches to keep a uniformity of speed, as if the traffic thereon for general uses was as great as on larger trusts, where the expense of placing a road primarily in good condition renders the subsequent repairs less expensive.

The uses of the roads are also applicable to a further revenue, the duty and assessed tax levied on horses and carriages, which contribute by a toll to the maintenance of the roads. The public documents would show that for stage-coach and post-horse duty, together with the assessed tax on carriages and horses, the produce is above one and-a-half million sterling, producing a revenue on horses employed in travelling of nearly three millions sterling, of which but a small portion thereof, 40,000*l.* to 50,000*l.*, is for the duties on hackney-coaches plying in the metropolis, and in a few large towns that do not very generally use the high turnpike roads.

382. Supposing a consolidation of trusts should take place, what arrangement would you propose with reference to the separate funds of those roads, as to their security, and as to the application of those funds which are to be raised for the support and maintenance of the roads?—With your permission I will state my general

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general views on the subject of the debts, and what future arrangements might be made for their security, bearing in my mind the great difficulty that must arise by forming districts throughout the kingdom to constitute a consolidation of trusts, whose respective debts are under such different circumstances of solvency, and the advantage that would arise both to the trusts and to the public by any assimilation of scale of tolls throughout the kingdom by such a consolidation. The primary object appears to rest on the prospect of security to be afforded for the debts; it might then be arranged for an equalisation of the toll, if the present system of collecting an income by such means be continued.

On the debts of the turnpike trusts in 1829, net amount 7,304,803*l.*, it may be observed that the greatest difficulty in effecting the consolidation of the numerous trusts (1,119) will be found in the existence of those debts and obligations, their origin and present state. All roads are not equally valuable, the local Acts being restrictive as to term of years (25 to 35); and if a trust be heavily charged, there is nothing to force the trustees to renew the term; the consequence might be, that whoever lent money would lose it: others are flourishing, and some evidently not worth retaining or re-assuming at the cost of paying the full nominal value of their debts; in not a few instances debts are owing which are valueless, and which were never expected by the creditors to be paid, but were originally meant as donations rather than loans. With respect to the borrowing of money, the law is inequitable and oppressive, it might almost be said to be fraudulent, for it induces persons to lend money on a supposed Parliamentary security, which is no security at all. These and other circumstances would give rise to a number of questions of a difficult and perplexing description.

It also appears by an abstract of the Parliamentary Returns (1829), that of 1,119 trusts, over 19,898 miles, there are 492, whose expenditure exceeds the income by 157,683*l.*, and of 39 trusts, no returns; the remaining 588 trusts have an excess of income above their expenditure of 153,064*l.*, showing the excess of expenditure to be 44,276*l.* The amount of unpaid interest is a serious point, showing it to be no less than 821,586*l.*, and that on 173 trusts, whose mortgage debt is 929,554*l.*, the whole of the interest due thereon, of more than three years standing, varying from 3 to 60 years, and some more; the total amount of interest due thereon is 527,162*l.*

The conclusion to be inferred by the approximate equality of the trusts upon expenditure above income, and that where there is an excess of income, is, that three millions and a half of debt, as the proportionate amount of the whole gross debt, 7,785,171*l.*, is without security for either principal or interest, and consequently the lenders must lose their money, or the public generally must pay large additional tolls to repay the money borrowed, from which they probably reaped no benefit whatever; or the travellers upon a particular road must be taxed for a grievous debt, so heavily, that some other road will be made or formed, so as to render the road, on which the debt is secured, still more unprofitable, and unlikely to pay the demands upon it. To spread this debt, so unprovided for, over other trusts, which are not in debt, would be to punish trusts because they have acted prudently and cautiously. Another object has been generally neglected, although an obligation, under the Act of Parliament granted to trusts, enjoins it; that is, the due observance of keeping up a sinking fund for the original view of liquidation of debt; in other cases vast sums have been laid out for local improvements in cities and towns, whereby the debts have been increased, and the tolls raised, for the interest thereof; these, and a variety of other causes, by which the debt has accumulated to the most alarming amount, afford strong presumptive reasons for a more minute investigation into the origin, causes and specific amounts incurred by all the trusts, than can be expected to devolve on the labours of a board of honorary commissioners, under the proposed Act for the consolidation of the trusts, and consequently, a commission of inquiry, under the searching scrutiny of legal and practical men, conversant with the machinery of the turnpike trusts, is presumed to offer the most efficient means of apportioning the debts in an equitable way for adjustment, to the general relief of the community, and the prevention of a further increase of the burthen.

Among the numerous instances of trusts, whose affairs appear insolvent, is the Buxton and Manchester, with a debt of 98,000*l.*, and the Stockport and Marple, both roads in the county of Chester, of which the mortgagees have or are about to enter.

Chester and Lancashire have 996 miles of turnpike road, with a burthen of debt thereon, amounting to 1,070,948 *l.* Mr. *Robert Fuge.* 28 April 1836.

Various modes have been suggested for the security of the debts; many trusts have resorted to Exchequer loans, and sums have been advanced to the amount of nearly 300,000 *l.*, of which many trusts have little probability of repaying, but by future Acts of Parliament to increase their tolls, and some no prospect whatever.

No specific course for an equitable adjustment of the debts appears practicable until the proposed investigation of the exact amount incurred by trusts for local improvements be ascertained. When that is accomplished, the burthen may be materially relieved by each bearing its due proportion; I mean the city, borough and town, one part, and the county and landed interest the other. To offer any reasoning on this point would be a waste of the valuable time of the Committee, further than by noticing that if parishes maintain their own roads or highways, and cities and towns of a certain extent of population should equally maintain theirs within a prescribed limit of distance drawn circuitously around each, that then the diminution of the debt by such a separation of interests, would render the means of securing the debt of each more feasible and equitable. Cities and towns might provide for their own portions by their own security and yearly maintenance; parishes in the county effect the same object by an equitable adjustment upon districts apportioned by Act of Parliament; and all future further improvements be subjected to the approval of the district board and sanctioned by the board of control. Thus far, there is suggested one course. Others have offered that the whole debt should become national, and interest paid thereon by a reduced rate from four and a half per cent., the estimated average of the present rate, to that of three per cent., at which money can be borrowed on good security; this alone would be a very material saving of 135,000 *l.* on nine millions of debt.

I am strongly of opinion, that until the mode of securing the debt upon an equitable apportionment be made, no effective course for consolidating the trusts can be accomplished.

Lunæ, 2° die Maii, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Mr. Fleming.
Mr. Ormsby Gore.	Mr. Childers.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	Mr. Walter Long.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Robert Fuge*, called in; and Examined.

383. *Chairman.*] WILL you state to the Committee your opinion as to the eligibility, with regard to the security of the country, of the establishment of a highway police by mile-men?—I think it would be highly beneficial and practicable upon a consolidation of the trusts. Mr. *Robert Fuge.* 2 May 1836.

384. Can you suggest anything to the Committee with regard to its formation?—The benefits to be derived from such an establishment on the public roads of mile-men to act as constables would depend upon the consolidation of the trusts in the way proposed in my former evidence as part of that machinery, and would be matter of future detail.

385. Why do you imagine that a highway police would depend upon the consolidation of the trusts?—Because the employment of those men who are termed mile-men could only be effected by a general establishment on all the roads, by the consolidation of trusts.

386. Might they not be employed without the consolidation taking place?—I conceive not to advantage, considering it to be dependent on my former suggestions.

387. Is it your opinion that in a small trust you cannot organize a small number of men as well as you could in a large one?—Certainly, the trusts are now too numerous to effect such an object; for instance, in the county of Lancaster there are 53 trusts, and they only average 10 miles and a fraction to each trust. One of these trusts extends over only four furlongs and five perches; and there are

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three under three miles, six under four, and nineteen from five to eight; the average of the whole kingdom being 17 miles and one-third to each trust.

388. Mr. *Childers.*] Then are you of opinion that the machinery for such a force will not work well, except extending over a certain extent?—That is my opinion.

389. *Chairman.*] Can you make any suggestion to the Committee as to the capability of forming labourers into a highway police?—I consider it will be practicable to select fit and proper men, if a consolidation be carried into effect having in view a complete separation of the present blended interests existing between towns and the country or rural district, when station-houses at every three or five miles might be procured, and become the fixed residence of such rural constables, by which means a regular establishment for each part could then be formed; but until the trusts are reduced in number, there could be nothing but a general power given to the magistrates to swear them in as constables, and then they would be under no particular or immediate superintending direction.

390. Have you turned your attention to the additional expense?—On that point connected with my former observations, that when united I think it would be very trifling beyond the regular wages for foremen, and that of a badge to distinguish them.

391. Is it your opinion that such an establishment would be beneficial to the country?—Very much so.

392. Will you state to the Committee in what manner you think it would be very beneficial to the country?—In affording security to travelling, and intimidating vagrants from passing from place to place; enabling the foreman or constable to have a constant watch on all suspicious persons on the roads, and by assisting in reclaiming stolen or strayed cattle, or other property, and affording security to individuals of the parishes; and it would further relieve the parishes, in a great measure, from the insecure state to which they are now subjected when disturbances arise and the constable is called in, when he just does his duty and no more, because he is not paid for it.

393. Do you think it would at all tend to the prevention of crime, particularly such as arson?—Most certainly it would, and be a check on the beer-houses.

394. Mr. *Fleming.*] And prevent also injury to the roads?—It would also effect that object.

395. *Chairman.*] Have you turned your attention to the formation of roads?—I can only give a general opinion from observation, and from what I have seen during the time I was a commissioner upon the Bristol roads, which was at the time when Mr. M'Adam's system and plans were first introduced and acted upon under the Bristol Trustees. I can state to the Committee that the improvements on the roads of that trust (170 miles in length), during the space of 12 years, from 1815 to 1827, (which was the time I resided there) were so materially advanced as to enable the trustees to do away with all the statute composition to the amount of 925 *l.* a year.

396. Will you state to the Committee to which you give the preference, to elastic or firm roads?—I think no definite answer can be given to so general a question, because the nature of the road depends upon the materials to be procured with which it is made.

397. Have you anything else to suggest to the Committee?—I would observe, regarding labour and team work on the roads, that by the union of parishes under the present Highway Act (that came into operation the 25th of March last past), and the union of parishes under the Poor Law Amendment Act, the combined efforts of the respective guardians under these most salutary laws, may be beneficially applied by employing their labourers in the repairs of the public roads, and be a very material feature in the saving of expense for maintaining them, by the extended employment of manual labour, in preference to horse and team-work as formerly resorted to, and in many cases most lavishly so, the then obligatory duty by statute labour and team-work being now abolished, the substitute for parish-work is now a money composition, by a rate assessed for the repairs only, under the direction and sole management of the surveyor.

Mr. *James O'Sullivan*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *James O'Sullivan.*

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398. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] ARE you aware that many of the roads in Ireland are kept up without tolls?—I am very well aware that much of the roads are kept in repair without tolls.

399. In what state of repair are such roads kept?—Those under the direction of Government, or the Board of Public Works, are generally in excellent repair; those kept up by the grand jury contractors are not generally in so good a state of repair, and are frequently in many instances impassable.

400. Have you travelled through the province of Connaught?—I have travelled very much through the county of Galway, and through the other counties, now and then, by coach; there is no turnpike in the province of Connaught; and it is here where I complain of the injustice arising from the exaction of tolls, for the inhabitants of this province support their roads at their own expense, and besides are obliged, in the transit of their produce to Dublin and other market places, to pay immense sums for toll, and therefore they are liable virtually to a double road tax.

401. Are you aware that the roads in that district are in very good order?—In most cases they are in an excellent state of repair.

402. Are you aware how the revenue for their repair has arisen?—By grand jury assessment.

403. Are you aware of the impression that generally prevails throughout the country, in respect of jobbing under the grand jury system?—I am not only aware of the general impression, but of the fact of jobbing.

404. And that it is very much abused?—Yes, exceedingly abused: I am aware of a bye or private road from 12 to 14 feet being repaired by a grand jury assessment, through the influence of a neighbouring gentleman, whilst a public thoroughfare contiguous, and on which there was great intercourse, was refused to be presented for; this I consider perfect jobbing.

405. Will you state under what management the turnpike-road ought to be?—That is a question involved in the consolidation; and my statement is generally made under the impression that such will take place.

406. Mr. *Long.*] Do you mean that it is to be under the control of the Government?—Yes.

407. To be under the management of Government?—Decidedly; I am very much of opinion that roads under the superintendence of Government in Ireland would be much better managed than under the direction of local trustees; and I am further convinced that the roads would be kept in better repair under Government commissioners, by comparing the state of the roads now under the direction of the Board of Public Works in Ireland, with those under the management of local trustees and grand jury contractors; the former are invariably in a good state of surface repair, whilst the latter in many instances are impassable.

408. The *Chairman.*] Will you state to the Committee what your opinion is upon the subject of the highway police?—I must say, with regard to Ireland, that I think the establishment of such a body more essential, and would be more productive of public good than even in England; it would, at least, achieve the following salutary objects: that persons going to that country, and travelling in the hitherto unfrequented districts, where now new lines of roads have been formed, would be protected from aggressions and disturbance, and that many under the consciousness of such protection, who would not now travel these roads, would then do so both for pleasure and business; it would also relieve the police from the very unpleasant and frequently annoying consequence resulting to that body, from being employed in keeping nuisances off the thoroughfare, and impounding stray cattle, pigs, and so on; acts which bring them into frequent collision with the peasantry, and even with those who would actually assist the police in the execution of their higher and more obligatory duties. Many of the civil police in Ireland are men of education and good habits, and feel an exceeding dislike to be thus employed.

409. Do the Committee understand you to recommend that, suppose there were 10 miles of road that that would require 10 men?—No, I would have these men stationed at three miles distance from each other, leaving a mile and a half on either side of their residence to repair and to take care of.

410. Would one man be able to do those three miles?—The extent that a man would be able to do would of course depend on the thoroughfare of the road, and

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the nature of the materials, and the general situation of the road; and where he would not be equal to the labour of keeping so much in repair, the superintendent of course has the power to allow him assistants.

411. Then you think he could perform his duty on the road, and execute his duty also as road-constable?—No question but he could, for I contemplate such men to be persons of the best character and labouring habits; and I am aware that the very appointment, and the consciousness of having them there stationed, would so lessen the necessity for their authoritative duties, that after a time they would in this manner have little or nothing to do.

412. Mr. *Childers.*] Could he do it in a populous neighbourhood?—I do not see why he could not, I am sure; he would be particularly useful in such localities in preventing the annoyances arising from having pigs and straying cattle, and all such things unnecessarily obstructing the public intercourse.

413. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Then the Committee understand that one of these mile-men so placed at three miles distance might have assistants if he required it?—That I consider as a matter of detail, to be determined by the superintendent, and does not at all affect the principle.

414. The *Chairman.*] Will you state to the Committee, assuming one man placed at every three miles, what you suppose would be the additional expense incurred?—I suppose the additional expense would be that attendant on the erection of houses and procuring stations, which in Ireland could not exceed 50*l.* for each house, &c.; therefore the additional expense would be the annual interest of this sum for each station. My observation, so far, is entirely confined to Ireland.

415. Which do you think it would be better, that a house should be rented or built for such men?—I think it would be difficult to find houses at such distances to rent, and fit for such persons; I therefore think it would be best to suit them, by having houses built; and I would much rather see such houses the property of the public than of any private individual.

416. Is it your opinion that such a system would be the prevention and detection of crime?—To a vast extent; for the consciousness of such an authority dispersed through the country would arrest many now in the habit of committing rural crimes, such as petty robberies, and giving highway annoyances, from the commission of such; and these mile-men having generally a local knowledge in the neighbourhood where they resided, would be thus enabled, either by themselves or by communicating with the other authorities, to arrest such characters in their neighbourhood.

417. Do you not think that the establishment of such a body would be objectionable to the Irish peasantry?—I do not think that it would; I rather think that they would encourage it; and I now speak of the districts of most of Munster, Leinster, and part of Connaught; and I am confident it is only those who are habitual delinquents that would at all have an aversion to the establishment of such a body.

418. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] You think the well-disposed of that country would not object to it?—Yes, I think so.

419. Mr. *Childers.*] Are you sufficiently cognizant with English society, as to be able to say whether such a system would be applicable here?—I am not. I know nothing of the localities of England beyond the suburbs of the metropolis. I would further beg to state to the Committee, that most of the public lines of roads made by the Government and grand juries through the hitherto unfrequented districts of Ireland, for the last seven years, particularly require the establishment of such a body on them. For instance, I would say, that called the Anglesea Road, going from the eastern to the western extremity of Tipperary, and in the county of Clare from Ennis to Kilrush, and from Limerick to Loughrea, and many similar districts in other parts of the kingdom.

420. Mr. *Fleming.*] Then you do not apprehend any hazard or danger to a solitary policeman being placed at the distance of three miles from each other?—Generally speaking, I do not; because I do not see how his work or duties could at all bring him in collision with any interest but that of the ill-conducted or marauders, a class which would be very much diminished by the belief that such a body existed to watch and check them; and I even think that this body of men would be a greater check on the ordinary delinquents of the country than the civil police generally are. For it not unfrequently happens, and I have seen it, that 10 or 12 policemen would be together within their barracks at a time when

disturbances

disturbances and depredations were being committed hard by. The mile-man or road constable is supposed to be on the road during the working or day hours, and thereby affords a more continuous and permanent check on the depraved and general bad characters than the civil police, from their habits, can.

421. The *Chairman.*] It is your decided opinion, that by the establishment of such a body the country would be rendered more tranquil?—I have not a doubt of it.

422. The *Chairman.*] Have you anything further to state to the Committee upon that subject?—No, I rather think not; if the Committee understand my notion of the subjects alluded to, I cannot add much more to what I have said.

423. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] If I understand your opinion rightly, it is, that an individual with legal power is less likely to be molested than an individual who has not that power?—Yes, decidedly; and particularly where this power is given for general usefulness and necessary purposes, such as the work and duties to be performed by such a body as I have alluded to.

424. The *Chairman.*] Have you turned your attention at all to the formation of roads?—I am not a professional engineer, but I had the superintendence of some roads in Ireland.

425. You heard last Thursday the questions put to the witnesses?—Yes.

426. Do you coincide in the opinions which Mr. Wingrove then gave?—I entirely dissent from them.

427. Do you approve of the elastic system?—All the other ways he considered as applicable to peculiar forms of road-making; this only embodies a principle, and therefore a system.

428. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] What are your reasons for preferring the system of elastic roads?—My reason for preferring the elastic form arises from the principle upon which it is founded: to form an elastic road broken stones are placed upon a bed of earth fitted for their reception, and to the height which the intercourse or situation of the road may require. This I think a much cheaper, as well as a much better, and more durable mode of constructing a road, than having a pavement or any under stratum but earth or clay; for by that arrangement every small stone unites with the whole mass, and contributes to perform the office of the whole; so that there is no partial pressure, all tending to support each other, and the common burthen that may pass over the road.

429. You spoke of yielding; would not a road thus formed be subject to an up-hill work to the vehicle?—No, not up-hill work; for the impetus from the rear will be found in all such cases equal to the depression in front; and it is difficult to conceive the principle of elasticity without allowing this; for otherwise it should be called a sinking road, not an elastic one.

430. Is not the undulation such as is not particularly agreeable?—If undulation was continuous, and not counteracted, it would; but on this principle of elasticity it is counteracted and imperceptible.

431. Have you frequently taken the reins in travelling by mail-coaches when you were mail-contractor?—I frequently have.

432. Did you find a greater pressure on the horses on one part of the road than the other?—Of course I have.

433. Was that arising from the elasticity?—It arises from the want of it; and this principle of road-making is not as yet carried to any very great extent in Ireland.

434. Do you mean not through the bogs in Ireland?—I mean to say that it is not in general use; but those roads through bogs are, from the nature of such soil, elastic.

435. Are you acquainted with the new roads which are made through the bogs in the county of Kildare, &c.?—They are in their nature elastic, because the nature of the soil renders it elastic, the pressure generally in such cases affecting much of the whole mass.

436. The *Chairman.*] You have stated that in the case of bog-roads, you generally lay your foundation of timber or furze, or some such matter?—Yes; that I applied to bogs when it is not possible or is very difficult to lay a first foundation of earth.

437. Are you aware of any other beneficial result arising from this elastic system?—Yes, one other exceedingly good result arises from the elastic system, and it is this: when you place broken stones to the necessary depth on a clay substratum, they then are worn only by the pressure or friction from above,

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whereas, on the old system, when you soled or bottomed a road with large stones, or in the shape of pavement, the surface of broken stones is not only worn by the friction from above, but also from the pressure below, being thus placed between two hard bodies.

438. Can you at all account for this principle, that if you spread broken stones over a soft substratum, that as one sinks it rises the other?—Yes, there is a great degree of adhesion of the stones, on account of their being so small, and a greater degree in the clay stratum; so that as you press one, being so connected by this tendency to adhesion, it rises the other; and thence eventually the principle of elasticity in roads arises.

439. Does not that principle of elasticity arise from a principle applicable to the pressure of fluids?—Yes; and the reason that system of elasticity exists in fluids is, the extreme adhesion of all the parts of the body or fluid; and therefore it is the degrees of adhesion as applicable to this system of road-making which makes it elastic.

440. Have you invariably found these elastic roads answer in Ireland?—Yes, from seven or eight years' experience I have, where they have been adopted.

441. Do you think they are much less expensive?—Yes, and more durable, and combining more of principle in road-making than any other I have seen or heard of.

442. But in some cases, where the substratum is of an exceedingly soft clay, do you think in such a case it would be desirable?—In all cases where clay is at all the substratum I would adopt it, if either making a road at my own expense or under the direction of another.

443. Do you agree with the last witness, Mr. Fuge, who stated that he thought Mr. Wingrove's plan the most desirable in some cases?—I do not.

444. Have you anything further to communicate to the Committee?—Supposing the roads should remain as they now are, under trustee management, I would suggest to the Committee the necessity of obviating the evil resulting from the additional toll imposed on cars with narrow wheels, say less than three inches wide, and the obligation on the persons frequenting these roads to so form their cars as to lose one-third of their own and their horse's labour.

Mr. *Matthias Chinery*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *Matthias Chinery.*

445. The *Chairman.*] WHAT is your business?—I am a corn-dealer.

446. Have you at all turned your attention to the state of the roads?—I have; in my early life I was brought up a farmer, and I have since then turned my attention to the roads.

447. Where do you reside?—I live at Lambeth, which is one of the largest parishes in England, where I believe we have 40 miles of road; I have resided there for the last 14 years.

448. Have you given your attention as to the eligibility of substituting some other means of raising a revenue than that adopted by turnpike-gates?—I have since I first attended this Committee; and I think the only eligible way of raising a revenue in substitution of tolls is by a sort of county rate; I think that is the only way which it is possible to make up the deficiency, because every householder would then be rated to it, and it would come out of the houses.

449. Will you state to the Committee what you mean by a county rate?—I should raise it upon all houses rated at 10 *l.* per annum.

450. Do you consider such a substitution of revenue would be desirable?—I do.

451. In what way do you consider it desirable?—Why at the present time, the roads, in my opinion, are managed in that sort of way, that the expense is not borne equally by those persons upon whom the burthen ought to fall, and which would be the case by the adoption of my system.

452. Do you consider there is a great deal of wasteful expenditure in the collection of tolls?—Yes, I do.

453. Have you turned your attention to the amount expended in the collection of tolls?—No, I have not.

454. Have you considered the eligibility of a consolidation of the trusts and the management of the funds of the trusts?—No, I have not.

455. Have you turned your attention to the system of establishing a highway police by the labourers on the road?—No, I have not.

456. State any information you wish to give this Committee on the subject of road-making?—The formation of roads is too often made without the aid of a level;

Mr. *Matthias Chinery.*

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a level; a great and desirable advantage arises from giving a road a proper shape, in order that the surface may be of one uniform curvature from the side to the apex of the road, which should be well consolidated. Where the materials are from a pit or field, stones should be selected as near to one size as possible; it does not matter what size, so that they are nearly equal. After laying them upon an old road, if only 18 feet upon the centre, the first thing to be done is to cut a trench or groove on each side of the road, to be in proportion to the size of the material; by this means the whole of the materials are formed into a proper surface, and will be so confined and imbedded by means of a roller, invented for the purpose, and when consolidated, some of the finest gravel put upon it to fill up the interstices; by this process the whole would become a solid repair, the materials remain uninjured, and would be durable for years without body, and extremely pleasant to travel upon.

457. Mr. *Fleming.*] What do you conceive to be the comparative expense of your mode of making roads and others?—There would be a great saving by the mode I propose for adoption, but I cannot state exactly the amount. A mile of road 30 feet wide, made with granite at 10*s.* a ton, and supposing the whole of the road covered over, would cost 880*l.*; a mile of road 30 feet wide, with 18 feet of granite in the centre, would cost 538*l.*; a mile of road 30 feet wide, with 18 feet of flint in the centre, would cost, at 5*s.* per ton, 264*l.*

458. The *Chairman.*] Which do you consider best, that the paving should be on each side of a road, or in the centre?—On the sides, I should think.

459. Why?—Because you have the pavement on the sides for the purpose of locking in the materials.

Veneris, 6° die Maii, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Mr. Fleming.
Mr. Ormsby Gore.	Mr. David Roche.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	Mr. Walter Long.
Mr. Childers.	

WILLIAM A. MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Alexander Gordon,* called in; and Examined.

Mr. *Alexander Gordon.*

6 May 1836.

460. WHAT are you?—A civil engineer.

461. Have the goodness to state to the Committee what, in your opinion, are the best means of constructing a road?—Towards answering that question, I beg to hand in the following statement:

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the First Cost, Annual Maintenance per Mile, and Amount of Tractive Power upon different kinds of Roads, the supposed Carriage-traffic being 250,000 tons per annum.

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Edge Railway.	Old Road laid with Blocks of Granite, for the whole to run upon.	Cassell's Bituminous Surface laid on an Old Road, Five yards wide.	Good London Pavement, width 15 feet.	Broken-stone Road, with a Rough Pavement Foundation, Five yards wide.	Broken-stone Road, on a Foundation of Cement.	Gravel or Broken-stone Road.
First cost - -	£. 20,000 Of this sum 5,582 *l.* may be stated as the cost after the levels are obtained, Ground, and Law, and Parliamentary expenses paid.	£. 2,500	£. 1,056	- - -	£. 2,000	- -	£. 2,000
Annual maintenance per mile.	- 400 *l.*, but not providing for depreciation.	- -	- - 88 *l.*, providing fully for keeping it up.	- - 79 *l.*, providing for renewal every 10 years.	- 133 *l.*, providing fully for keeping it up.	- -	- - 372 *l.*, providing for renewal every 10 years.
Tractive power required to shove 1 ton on a level.	10 lbs.	12½ lbs.	15 lbs.	32 lbs.	43 lbs.	43 lbs.	140 lbs.

THE Effect produced by Locomotive Power equal to 660 lbs., upon various Inclinations, and the various Surfaces of Road above mentioned.

Rate of Inclination.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
Level - -	67.25	52.77	43.97	29.33	15.34	- - -	4.71
1 in 1,000	53.43	44.70	38.27	26.65	14.58	- - -	4.63
1 in 900	52.22	43.96	37.71	26.38	14.50	- - -	4.62
1 in 800	50.75	43.07	37.5	26.06	14.40	- - -	4.61
1 in 700	49	41.97	36.24	25.65	14.27	Same as preceding column, No. 6.	4.60
1 in 600	46.76	40.59	35.21	25.13	14.11		4.58
1 in 500	43.93	38.81	33.86	24.43	13.89		4.56
1 in 400	40.20	36.41	32.2	23.46	13.57		4.52
1 in 350	37.8	34.87	30.82	22.81	13.35		4.50
1 in 300	35.07	33.01	29.36	22	13.07		4.46
1 in 250	31.66	30.72	27.53	20.96	12.69		4.42
1 in 200	27.47	27.82	25.18	19.56	12.17		4.36
1 in 150	22.11	24.03	22.04	17.60	11.38		4.25
1 in 100	15.21	18.89	17.64	14.69	10.08		4.06
1 in 80	All greater elevations may be pronounced extremely injudicious, if not impracticable, for locomotive conveyance on an edge railway.	16.28	15.34	13.56	9.29	- - -	3.92
1 in 60		13.23	12.60	11.02	8.21	- - -	3.71
1 in 40		9.63	9.29	8.40	6.66	- - -	3.36
1 in 20		5.30	5.19	4.90	4.25	- - -	2.61
1 in 10		2.79	2.75	2.67	2.47	- - -	1.80

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462. The *Chairman.*] That is the statement you wish to put in; have you anything further to say?—I will give my authority connected with the cost of these roads, and of the horse-draught on each, from personal observation, when the Committee think fit to ask me.

463. Separate, if you can, the statement you have made respecting the edge railway, so as to compare the expense only of construction?—I have here a copy of the report upon the projected railway from Prague to Vienna, which I have this morning sent off to Prague. Suppose the land to be purchased, and the levels to be obtained, the expense in laying down the railway in England, including the labour of fixing and completing the whole, at the present (high) price of iron, will be 5,582*l.* per mile.

464. Do you deduct anything more?—No.

465. Speaking in round numbers, you would leave about 14,500*l.* for the expense of the edge road?—For the expense of surveying and procuring a level, and purchase of land, Parliamentary expenses, and so on, 14,418*l.*

466. Mr. *Childers.*] Why is there so small a sum as 79*l.* for a London pavement, and only 15 feet?—When I first constructed that table, it was with the view of comparing the power required, and effect produced on different kinds of roads, in order to ascertain how far the price of transportable commodities would be increased or diminished by the use of one road or of another; and I take it 15 feet wide, because it would enable me to bring the roads into more direct comparison. There is one line for going, and the other for returning on a railway, with a line of traffic on the one side, and a line of traffic on the other side of the turnpike-road; and, supposing the road to be a paved one, we must calculate for the two courses of traffic.

467. Are you quite sure you could construct a good London pavement, 15 feet wide, for the sum of 79*l.*?—That calculation is made from the evidence quoted by Sir Henry Parnell, in his "Treatise upon Roads." I will read the extract from that evidence.

[*The following Extract was then read by the Witness:*]

"Mr.

" Mr. Johnstone, in his evidence before the House of Lords (1833), proved that the very best pavement would cost 13*s.* per square yard, and would cost nothing in repair for the first three years; and he gave in the following statement:—

	£.	s.	d.
First cost per superficial yard - - - -	–	13	–
Ten years' repair, at 4*d.* per ditto - - - -	–	3	4
Ten years' cleansing, at 3*d.* per ditto - - -	–	2	6
	–	18	10
Deduct value of old stone - -	–	8	–
Per yard, in 10 years - -	–	10	10

The old stone might last 20 years longer; but, at all events, would be worth 8*s.* per yard, after 10 years' wear."

468. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] State the manner in which you get at the result here of 79*l.* per mile for London pavement?—I have calculated upon the traffic of 250,000 tons per annum, the traffic on the pavement, at the price of which Mr. Johnstone spoke; 13,333,000 tons annually is the traffic in Holborn.

469. Mr. *Childers.*] State to the Committee, from your own personal knowledge, what is the expense per square yard of laying down pavement, assuming it to be the best, which is with the cubes, not with the inverted cones?—I have not (myself) laid down any pavement. I have no experience to quote of that kind; if the Committee put me to my experience in this case, it can only be with regard to the tractive power, or horse-draught.

470. Then this calculation is not made from your own knowledge?—Column 5, from what I have stated of Mr. Johnstone's evidence, from Sir Henry Parnell's quotation of it; and the other columns from Parliamentary Papers, and other authorities.

471. You do not speak to any of this from your personal knowledge, it is only information you have collected from other sources?—From my personal experience, I certainly cannot state the first cost of such roads; only the comparison of power required, and effect produced.

472. I will take one instance with regard to the expense, No. 7; the expense of laying down is 2,000*l.* a mile; Mr. M'Adam, in the Committee in 1819, states it is much less. You put down at 372*l.* per mile for annual wear and tear; I am not aware that is borne out by any evidence that has been laid before the Committee?—If the Committee will allow me I will bring that evidence on a future occasion.

473. Have you ever been in the habit of forming roads?—No, not on my own account; I have assisted in the formation of several roads in Kirkcudbright and Mid-Lothian, mapping, levelling, and laying out.

474. Mr. *Childers.*] You spoke as to the tractive powers; you state that on this gravel road there is 140 lbs. it takes to draw a ton, and on a broken-stone road, laid on a foundation, took 43 to form it; is it not quite evident the surface of each of those roads must be in the same state when you put the cart on; how is it there is that difference, 43 and 140?—In the one case the road binds well together, and in the other case the road does not bind so well together.

475. Do you mean to say a road made of gravel and broken stone will not bind together?—If it has no foundation it will be like a bag of nuts; it must work, the particles being moved.

476. Do you mean a road made all of round stones, and not broken stones?—The stones, even sharp angular stones, in the process of traffic over a road without foundation, are worn round by attrition.

477. Do you not think they would cement before they became round?—No, they cannot cement.

478. In your opinion, what is the best species of road for a turnpike-road?—A good pavement, in some cases; in other cases, a good broken granite surface, with a good foundation under it; in most cases, I should say the best road is that made with a bituminous surface, because it does not require the same expense in preparation; and it appears to me to be cheap.

479. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] What am I to understand by bituminous surface; what is it composed of?—It is composed of mineral pitch, mineral tar, sand, well skreened gravel, and road-scrapings.

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480. On what substratum?—On almost any, if made thick according to the substratum.

481. What thickness?—From two to three inches, and in some perhaps four inches, according to locality, and the work which is to be put upon it.

482. On any foundation?—Any foundation which is not very soft; of course a good foundation is to be preferred.

483. What elevation in the middle?—With such a road as this, impervious as it is to water, whether from above or from below, it is not so necessary to have any considerable elevation in the middle; but I should say, on the cross section of a road 30 feet wide, not more than three or four inches would be necessary to throw the water on one side.

484. Can you give us an instance of this road existing?—There is a piece of road on Kennington Common prepared in this manner; there is a piece upon the Vauxhall-bridge-road; there is a piece upon Mill-wall, Poplar.

485. Which side of the bridge?—Near Pimlico, on the Vauxhall-bridge-road.

486. Mr. *Childers.*] You spoke of the expense as 1,056 *l.* per mile; how do you arrive at that sum?—I calculate this as being thin on the edges, and three inches thick in the centre.

487. Have you any positive information as to the expense of this road from any person who has made it?—I have asked the party, who has made this road, for what he would construct this road for me; and his answer was, at three inches thick all the way through, 3 *s.* I will lay a specimen of this road on the table.

Mr. *John Henry Cassell,* Mill-wall, Poplar, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. H. Cassell.*

488. WHAT are you?—I am the patentee of the bituminous lava road.

489. You have directed your entire attention to the formation of this road in particular?—I have.

490. Have the goodness to state to the Committee the way in which you recommend its being formed, and the advantage arising from it?—I have travelled a great deal in England: I have always been struck with the heavy draw that there has been for the horses, in going so often through a new-made road, especially in autumn; and, from observation, I have found that what was put on at great expense one month was generally scraped up the next month in a sort of mud. An idea struck me, if the particles of the road could not be bound together in some way, to render them impervious to water; and for which purpose I tried a great number of experiments, as much as eight years ago.

491. State the way in which it is formed?—After trying a number of experiments, I found that a bituminous substance, composed of tar, mineral tar, or tar or resin, boiled together, with a certain quantity of prepared gravel, or sand, or road-stuff, in certain proportions, laid on the road in a hot state, and ironed down with hot irons, was impervious to water; there was neither mud nor dust, and the heaviest weights made no impression upon it.

492. What is the thickness of this road?—It will do from half an inch, when there is no great traffic, to three inches.

493. The average thickness is about three inches?—Yes; I take that generally as the thickness of the centre.

494. What substratum is it necessary to lay it on?—It is almost immaterial; it must be dry at the time.

495. In what manner is it laid on?—Pour it on boiling hot.

496. How do you keep it of the thickness of three inches?—We have iron frames we put down; we take one-half the road first, and we put an iron frame down, say three inches in the centre, and one inch and a half, or one inch, according as we may contract to perform the works. The lava is then in a melted state, well mixed together, put in boiling hot, and ironed with hot irons. It sets in about one hour, and then it is fit for use.

497. What is the average expense per square yard, assuming it to be three inches in depth, you can lay it down for including all expenses?—Three shillings and sixpence per square yard, within a moderate distance from London.

498. How long will this wear without requiring to be replaced?—It may be worn down to, I should think, within an inch.

499. Assuming the ordinary draft there to be what passes over Vauxhall-bridge,

or any given weight to go over it, what length of time will your road last before it wants to be renovated?—I have only had two years' experience, therefore I have brought a piece of the road, which has been down two years in the Ferry-road.

500. Is there much traffic in that road?—There is a good deal of traffic from the oil-works and stone-works, but not so much as the public streets of London.

501. Assuming that this system of yours were laid down, we will say at Hyde Park Place, at the top of Oxford-street, how long would it last with that traffic?—I am willing myself to contract to lay down the road at the price I have said, and keep it in repair for 10 or 20 years at 3*d.* a yard.

502. Will that substance, which you call the lava, enable you to pour some fresh over it; or are you obliged to stop until the whole is worn out, and replace it with a new substance?—I can put a piece on as neat as a cabinet-maker can put a piece into a chest of drawers, without at all interfering with the road.

503. Assuming that there is two inches of this road worn out, and one inch only remains, do I understand you that you can replace those two inches?—Yes, at any time repair and make it as perfect as when it was laid down.

504. Assuming that this road of yours was placed at the top of Oxford-street, and it was not repaired, how long do you think it would continue with the traffic which now goes there?—I am certain it would require no repairs for the first 12 months.

505. Mr. *Childers.*] Will you state to us what experiments you have made, for how long a time, and the success of them?—This statement is copied from my experiment book, and was dated May 2, 1834, "Cast 108 feet of lava-stone on the Ferry-road, Mill-wall: bitumen, 8 cwt. 0 qrs. 16 lbs.; prepared sand and gravel, 19 cwt. 2 qrs. Two men, one day; firing; carriage within five miles of London." It is to be understood that was a very small piece. I have made my memorandum underneath, "Will be laid for 6*d.* a foot, within five miles of London." This may be considered my first experiment, but we have improved on the machinery, and the method of making it, so that we can do it cheaper.

506. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Your first evidence went to a cheaper sum, 3*s.* 6*d.* a yard, which is 6*d.* a foot?—This is four inches, and the other was three inches.

507. What extent do you say this was?—One hundred and eighty-four square feet.

508. Will you mention any other experiments you have made?—I have made another experiment at Vauxhall.

509. Mr. *Childers.*] What proportion of bitumen?—One hundred and sixteen pounds of bitumen.

510. Your proportion of sand is rather more than double of the bitumen?—Yes.

511. Is that the opinion which you still adhere to?—By further experiments we find, that, by giving extra heat, we can add a larger quantity of the gravel.

512. What is your proportion of sand to bitumen now?—I think that now we can put four to one, it depends on the depth of road we make; if we make a thin road we are obliged to give it more elasticity, and not add so much; if we make a thick road, we can use larger materials, and it takes less of the combining principle.

513. You stated you thought three inches the utmost, therefore you had better adhere to the principle of three inches; in three inches, what is the proportion of gravel or sand to bitumen?—About 1 cwt. of bitumen to 4 cwt. of gravel.

514. Col. *Rushbrooke.*] You stated that, by using greater heat you would use less bitumen; what thickness were you then speaking of?—Either three or four inches; you are obliged to use more when you come to an inch and a half and two inches.

515. Mr. *Long.*] When was that laid down which is between Grosvenor-place and Vauxhall-bridge?—The Vauxhall-bridge-road, six months ago.

516. What is the thickness of that road?—Two inches and a half.

517. How does it stand the travelling on it?—I see not the least alteration. I should say there is not a particle gone from it; I can see no visible alteration in it whatever.

518. In what way was it formed at first?—It was on a shingly bottom.

519. Was it formed flat or convex?—It is rather more an inclined plane; the situation of the road was such, that one side was high and the other low, therefore

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we were obliged as well as we could not to take the crown in the centre, but more towards the upper end.

520. You have drained it?—We tried to do it, and by that means we got rather in a hollow; we should have done better if we had kept it an entire inclined plane.

521. Do you mean to say, that being formed in the manner you mention, it drained on the side; do you mean to say the surface at present is precisely the same as when you laid it down?—I can see no alteration in it.

522. Is the surface at present not unequal, so that it would hold water if there was rain?—A person going on the road may perceive a few inequalities in it, from the circumstance of its being very flat, and the lava substance having to be cast in different squares; if the men are not very particular, they cast one square a quarter of an inch higher, and the next square a quarter of an inch below the level of the former; the effect will be when the lava cools, it will show as if the road had sunk a little; but those who saw the road laid down, and watched the progress of it, know it was the same. The road is precisely the same now as when it was laid down; if there are any little inequalities in it where the water lodges, it is on account of the road being so very flat; and its being only perhaps my second experiment, the men were not altogether so expert in working at the hot lava as they would if they were in constant employment.

523. It it not then worn away, and has not left considerable inequalities in the road?—I do not think that it is; the material being a black material, you would have seen the black in the surrounding road if any part of it had been grounded or pulverised.

524. Have the wheels gone over that surface [*pointing to a specimen produced by the Witness*]?—For the last two years, without any more effect than appears to be done on that specimen: the wheels have had no more effect than what you see. This has been taken out of the centre of the road.

525. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] What is the effect of the sun in very hot weather; becomes of the road in that case?—In very hot weather the wheels have certainly what the effect that a bookbinder has when he presses upon a book.

Lunæ, 9° die Maii, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Mr. Childers.
Mr. Ormsby Gore.	Mr. Flemming.
Lord Viscount Clive.	Mr. David Roche.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	

WILLIAM A. MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Charles Penfold*, called in; and Examined.

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526. *Chairman.*] WHAT situation do you hold?—I am one of the surveyors of the Surrey and Sussex Trust, and the Croydon and Reigate Trust; I have had about 100 miles of road under my care.

527. Have you considered the expediency of abolishing turnpike tolls?—Yes.

528. State to the Committee whether, in your opinio. it would be a desirable thing to substitute some other revenue than that raised by tolls, for the purpose of supporting the roads?—I think it would be desirable to extinguish toll-gates within five miles of the metropolis, or any large city or town, because of the delay and inconvenience which arises where numbers meet at the same point, and where time lost is of consequence to the parties. The inhabitants of the metropolis, and five miles round it, pass and repass the tollgates oftener in the year than anywhere else, and consequently are more incommoded by the interruption. It would seem then that there would be no great hardship if the repair of the roads within that distance were thrown upon the parishes through which they pass, which would render the tollgates unnecessary. Perhaps the amount of toll paid by the inhabitants is as great as the amount of cost of repair of the roads would be within that limit.

529. Have you turned your attention towards the consolidation of trusts?—I think it would be very desirable that a consolidation of trusts should take place. I think the trusts are a great deal too small; they cannot, from their small-

ness,

ness, employ those persons who are most capable of repairing the roads best, and at the least cost; and I think it is in that particular item that expense would be saved, namely, in the proper formation of roads.

530. What would you suggest, if you were to consolidate the trusts, and a poor one was to be united with a rich one; can you suggest any remedy?—I think that a board of commissioners should be appointed, to have the power of determining what trusts should be united for the purpose of efficient management, and in other respects to constitute a board of control. The trusts to be consolidated should have a board of trustees, to be formed of a given number of persons from each trust, perhaps a trustee for each mile of road, who should sit as the representative of the trust from which he is sent. The board to act generally as a board of management, and to keep the receipts and disbursements separate and distinct with each trust. In order to secure the same, and the best mode of repair, a general surveyor should be appointed to the board, by the board of control. The consolidated trust should appoint a surveyor to each trust of which the consolidated trust is composed, or to two trusts, according to the extent of them; which surveyors should be under the immediate direction of the general surveyor, who will be responsible for their conducting the repair of the road in the best manner. The representatives of each trust should constitute a committee, to meet from time to time in their district, in order to direct the details of that trust, assisted by the general surveyor, as to the leading points in the mode of repair. No money should be expended in any improvement of magnitude by any particular committee, without the consent of the general meeting of the consolidated trust, and until the general surveyor shall have made a report upon the same. The number of trustees is at present too large, the majority of whom, take little or no interest in the subject. If the number be curtailed as here proposed, the persons forming the committees of the general trust will feel that the good or bad state of the road will depend upon them; there will be responsibility, and consequently energy; and a degree of interest will be excited which will ensure attention to the subject. As no money for the purpose of improvement is to be laid out without the concurrence of the general meeting of the consolidated trust, there will be no room for improper or improvident expenditure, because the majority of the members of the general board will most likely not be interested parties, and would form a check upon any inconsiderate proposition for lavish expenditure. The general surveyor being appointed by another authority, will be sufficiently independent to give his opinion without fear of offence to individual trustees; at the same time he can be removed upon sufficient cause being shown to the board of control. The difficulty which exists with regard to a just arrangement of the debts in a proposition for consolidating trusts, with the view of having one common fund, will be done away by the plan which has been here suggested, of keeping a separate account of receipts and disbursements with each trust. The expenditure, even for the general management, when ascertained at the end of the year, can be easily apportioned by dividing it amongst the number of miles of which the consolidated trust is composed; and according to the number of miles each individual trust contains, such a proportion to the whole will that trust pay.

531. Is it your opinion that the gentlemen of the country would like the interference of these surveyors appointed by the board of control?—I think, if they had the interest of their own trust at heart, they could not possibly object to a proper person being employed in order to secure the best course of repair, which would in the end save their money and that of the public.

532. Your opinion then is the present trustees do not do their duty?—I only think the number is so great, that they do not feel that interest in the subject, which, if concentrated, they would do upon the principle that everybody's business is nobody's; and I am sure that, if the proper system of repair could be secured by enlarging the sphere of management, the roads would present a different appearance, and much money be saved.

533. Mr. *Roche.*] Are you aware that any combination exists in bidding for the tolls to keep them lower than they otherwise might be?—I have no doubt the wealthy toll lessees have a great advantage over those who have not money enough to carry it on.

534. Is there any combination to prevent bidders coming forward?—I do not think so; it is merely arising from the wealth the lessees possess.

535. Are you not of opinion that a man who is unacquainted with the

 receipts

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receipts of the turnpike tolls, will not be likely to bid as much as the individual who has held them and who knows their full value?—Just so; but it is generally known what they have been let for before.

536. Do you consider a very great profit is made by the lessees of the tolls?—I do.

537. In what proportion to the gross receipts, would you say?—I cannot say. I know most of them are wealthy men.

538. They get their wealth by means of the tolls, you think?—Yes, I see them keep their carriages.

539. Can you state to the Committee, upon a rough estimate, what is the amount of tolls paid by the public, and what the profit made by the lessees?—No, I am not prepared to state that.

540. Have you at all directed your attention to the establishment of the highway police?—I have not.

541. Have you attended the bidding for tolls?—Yes.

542. Have you found that when extraordinary opposition was made, a greater increase took place in the rent for tolls than what they had previously let for?—Yes.

543. Do you think that they were overbid for by the opposing party; or was it the profit that had heretofore been received by the collector?—I think when they have made a sudden rise owing to opposition, when they have been put up again they have given even more still.

544. The first lessee must have held them considerably under the value?—Oh, yes.

545. *Chairman.*] State what in your estimation is the best way of forming roads?—I think the great art consists in keeping the section true, the foundation dry, opening the road to receive the material, preparing the material properly, not only by cleansing it from dirt, but by breaking it into proper sizes, and sorting it. I know few men in this country who go as far as I do in that respect. I sort the material through different sieves, laying on one size at one time, and a smaller size at another, and I find that it answers well the expense bestowed upon it: in laying it on a little at a time, a stone-thick only, which I have found to last, with the great traffic which we have on the Brighton-road, a whole twelvemonth; by which means I have been able to save cent. per cent. in my expenditure, in keeping the surface true, by raking and clearing it of mud or dust as soon as it appears.

546. What material do you generally use?—Perhaps not the very best material, it being merely gravel; but I am very well convinced it does not altogether consist of the nature of the material, but in the preparation of it, and the mode of applying it. I think that which often appears to be an inferior material will prove to be a very useful one if properly prepared.

547. Does not the use of the material differ in its capability of service, either from the climate or from the substratum on which you put it?—I think, with regard to that, that the flint will last relatively longer in the moist situation than granite; granite likes dry weather at all times; flint cannot bear dry weather, it becomes pulverised in proportion to the drought; therefore I generally select a shady situation for flint, and an open situation for that which is of a more tough elastic nature.

548. When you are speaking of flint, do you mean the chalk flint?—No, not by any means, because it is too brittle; it is the surface flint, or the pit flint to which I refer.

549. If you had the choice of using the common materials, consisting of whinstone, limestone, flint and granite, which would you prefer?—Granite and whinstone; I think that there is very little difference between the two.

550. Do you like a hard foundation for the road underneath?—No, decidedly not. If you will allow me, I will read to you what I have written upon that subject. Attention must first be drawn to the foundation of the road. Men, eminent for their skill and practical knowledge, differ upon this point: the one party contending that a pitched foundation is necessary to make a substantial and good road; the other, that no pitching is essential. The one says, that you cannot make it non-elastic without the pitching; the other, that the pitching is so much expense needlessly incurred. It would seem that the latter is the most reasonable conclusion. The pitching is either unnecessary or mischievous when the body of the road is to be constructed of a softer or more brittle material. For, if a more

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a more brittle material be laid upon one of a stubborn nature, and where there is not thickness enough of the inferior sort of itself, or of its own weight, to support the loads it is subject to, that material, lying between two hard substances, must be pulverised; the heavy waggon-wheel above, and the hard pitching-stone beneath, place the flint or gravel in a situation similar to the wheat between the miller's grinding-stones. If, however, there be a thickness of materials upon the road sufficient to preserve them from this effect, the weight of the flints themselves will form power enough to compose the road, without the solid assistance of the pitching-stones. The plan of a pitched foundation could only have been resorted to where the funds so abounded as to allow of such an extravagant proceeding. It may perhaps be conceded, that, upon a road which is liable to great and heavy traffic, and where there are ample funds at hand to supply the expense, and in order to render security doubly sure, the practice may be resorted to; but then it must be qualified by an undertaking, that as great a thickness of broken metal be always kept upon this pitching as to secure the upper substance from being sacrificed. The best foundation for a road is a substratum, kept perfectly dry by proper and effectual drainage. Secure this, and it forms a basis for the materials to rest upon, far more economical, in every respect, than the pitching-stones; first, in the prime cost of it; and, secondly, in the diminution of wear. As to the elasticity, or giving propensity in a road made without pitching-stones, nothing need be apprehended; for with a subsoil drained, and a competent thickness of the common materials kept up, elasticity vanishes. Besides, in a pitched foundation, some of the stones would be liable to sink deeper into the subsoil than the rest, and would consequently cause holes to appear in the surface, which would not occur when a body of flint, broken small, is the substratum. If one substance used in road-making be harder than another, that substance should be upon the surface, and not at the foundation; to lay the softer upon the harder must have the effect of sacrificing the inferior material. If the pitching-stone be of a softer nature than the materials to be laid upon it, the objection to its use will not then apply.

551. Have you anything further to state on the construction of roads?—I should like to say something on the width of the wheels. I think the broad wheel is not sufficiently encouraged.

552. State your reasons?—Any injurious action upon the surface of the road diminishes progressively as the width of the felloe of the wheel increases. A wheel may so increase in width as to act as a roller or compressor; and, within certain limits, the heavier the roller the more effectual it is in producing the desired effect, viz. compression. Thus, although a wheel shall carry weight for inches, it may approach, as the width of the felloe increases, to the point at which instead of causing injury to it will benefit a road. A road appears to be better able to carry six tons upon a six-inch wheel, than three tons upon a three-inch wheel, or we should never approach that point at which the wheel acts as an improver. I fix the power of a road to sustain weights as the square of the width of the felloe, supposing they carry the same weight. The scale would then stand thus:

A 3-inch wheel would be as - - - - -	1
A 4 ½ inch wheel would be as - - - - -	2 ¼
A 6-inch wheel would be as - - - - - -	4
A 9-inch wheel would be as - - - - - -	9

To support this scale, the following argument is used: that the pressure of the wheel upon the road acts longitudinally as well as laterally; and as the width of surface increases so does the length. That as much of the body of the road is brought into action before and behind the wheel as under it. That to suppose the power of the road or quantum of resistance to increase only in the simple ratio of the width of wheel, would be to say that the wheel is supported by the mere quantity of substance of road which lies immediately under the thin narrow line of felloe touching the surface. This would be impossible; and therefore there must be a greater base brought into play than this almost imaginary line of contact. The pressure must dispense itself in all directions, as a drop falling into a basin of water sets that water in motion all around it. The substance of road then brought into use, as a base to support the wheel, extends in every direction, as the width of the felloe and the power of the road consequently may be reckoned as the square of the width borne upon. This ascertained, a given weight upon a 3-inch wheel has but nine square inches to support it; but, placed upon the

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6-inch wheel, it has 36 square inches to support it; the injury done by each wheel will be inversely in these proportions. It is found in practice that nine tons upon a 6-inch wheel, the sole of which is perfectly flat, does not do so much injury as three tons weight upon a 3-inch wheel. I am of opinion that a 6-inch wheel does not cause half so much injury to a road as the 3-inch wheel, although it shall carry weight for inches. And if it be left open to the public to carry what weight they please, I should increase the toll in a two-fold proportion inversely as the width of the wheel, viz.; the 3-inch should pay double the toll of the 6-inch wheel. This is upon the presumption that weight for inches will be carried, and the presumption is founded upon this reasoning: That a given weight can be moved more easily upon broad wheels when a road is in a heavy state; and that if the weight be put upon the narrow wheels, a greater number of horses would be required, and consequently more toll would be received to make up for the injury done. In a good state of road the heavy weight will be placed upon the narrow wheels; but then, the power of the road being so much greater, the difference of injury done is not of consequence enough to justify the system of weighing-machines, and of depriving the public of the advantage of carrying heavier loads when the roads run light.

553. You are aware that with regard to the broad wheels upon a conical axletree, which belong to the heavy eight-horse waggon, that those wheels are made to dish; the axis of the wheel is a sort of cone. Are you not aware of that principle in mechanics, that as the wheel turns round upon a conical axletree, there is an inclination in the wheel to diverge; as the power of the horses pulls it forwards, a twofold action takes place, and a continual grinding on the road, with additional friction, is the result, by which the road is very much injured?—It is obviously true, that the wheel of a cylindrical form has the advantage of the wheel of a conical form, both as far as regards the wear of the road and the draught for the horses. The cylindrical wheel stands upright, having a perpendicular pressure on the road, and the felloe being parallel with itself, the periphery is the same inside as outside; whereas the conical wheel is made of a dishing shape, the bearing or direction of the felloe, instead of being parallel with itself inclines to a point, forming a cone, the base of which is the inner periphery of the wheel, and the apex, a point ascertained by producing the lines of felloe, formed by the inner and outer periphery. The conical wheel then, from its peculiar construction, having the inside greater than the outside circumference, and being obliged to go forward in a right line, causes a compound motion, which in its progress produces a screwing or grinding effect upon the materials, and in a measure displaces them: this injures the road and makes the draught heavier. On the other hand, in favour of the conical wheel, there is more room given for the body of the carriage; and also by its standing out from the body, the cart itself, in crowded streets, is protected in case of collision with another cart, the projecting part of the wheels alone coming in contact, and gently rubbing one another off. As far, however, as regards the wear of the road, the upright or cylindrical wheel ought to be encouraged; then, with regard to the shape of the felloe: it will be seen that the general practice has been to make a six-inch felloe, in a great degree circular, instead of flat, which, of course, has had the effect of injuring the roads, and of deluding the trustees of the turnpikes. Much of the dislike which has been felt by some surveyors to the broad wheel, has arisen from this cause, and with reason: the 6-inch wheel is allowed to carry greater weights than the narrow wheel, and pays at the same time less toll; the circular form of the felloe prevents the whole six inches from bearing upon the road, and in many instances it will be found to roll no greater surface than the 3-inch wheel; if, then, it is allowed to carry more weight, and pay less toll, the objection of the surveyor is very natural. It probably, under these circumstances, has double the advantage of the narrow wheel, or is of double injury to the trust; provision ought therefore to be made, that the whole professed width of felloe be made flat, so that it bear upon an equal superficies of road.

554. You stated in your evidence, that the narrow wheels make the draught greater to the horses, assuming four tons, and that four tons put on narrow wheels, this will be a greater load for the horses than four tons on broad wheels: this cannot be correct, supposing the road to be hard?—It depends entirely on the state of the road, from a fallow field to the iron railway; the worse the state of the road is, the lighter the draught on the broad wheel. I can get my road hard without a pitched foundation, having depth enough of materials.

555. What

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555. What depth do you recommend?—About 12 inches. I have made the observation with regard to the elasticity; the ground may be said to be elastic when the foundation of it is unsound, and the substratum partakes of the nature of fluid: materials placed upon such matter, if in small quantities, are forced by the weight on the wheel into this substratum, and according to the density of the soil will the materials quickly or slowly disappear; if spongy, only as some are forced in others will rise out, as water, if pressed upon and confined in one place, will make its appearance in another. The remedy for this, in making a new road, is to take care that a substratum of this nature be conquered at once, and so confined, by a sufficient weight of materials being laid on at one time, that its elastic propensity be kept under. In dealing with this sort of subsoil the mistake generally is in putting on a quantity of bavins or bushes, and but little material on the top of them, which tends to increase the elasticity by preventing a close and equal bearing upon the subsoil by the road materials. There must be weight to resist weight; and if that point be attained, and it is allowed to bear equally upon the foundation, one portion of it cannot rise up more than another, and the elastic propensity is then destroyed.

556. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] You have mentioned the manner in which you form this road; do you put first your stone of small dimensions?—Stones, of equal dimensions altogether.

557. Whether it is gravel or stone?—Yes. I think it is necessary always to have 12 inches of materials.

558. Is the 12 inches of material of the same description of stone as the surface?—Yes.

559. *Chairman.*] In your opinion, is it better for the road to have a ditch on each side, or a support, something like an abutment on each side?—It is very desirable to have that support at the extremity of the arch, formed of the cemented material; it is very desirable to have it supported at the ends of the arch.

560. How can you have a ditch?—The ditch ought to be on the inside the field, and lateral drains into it.

561. Is there not some variation between the early and the latter part of your evidence, with regard to the size of the material; in the early part, you stated you had different sizes, that you had sieves for that purpose; and in the latter part of your evidence you say that you use the same size?—Whether it be larger or smaller I like them always to be put on of one size, so that each coat may consist of materials of a uniform size. It is of more consequence to pay attention to uniformity in the size of the material, than to determine what that size should be.

Mr. *Robert Giles Marten,* Clerk to the Vauxhall-bridge Company, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *R. G. Marten.*

562. STATE to the Committee what your opinion is of the sort of bituminous lava, the patent road made use of by the Vauxhall Bridge Company?—The Company allowed Mr. Cassell to lay down 100 yards long, and about 15 yards wide; we have had it down since August last; at present I do not see any alteration in it. As far as I can judge of it, it appears to answer the purpose intended; there is scarcely any impression made by the wheels, and everything seems to run on it with a great deal of facility.

563. You have stated it has worn hitherto perfectly to your satisfaction?—So much so that we have it in contemplation continuing it, only allowing to Mr. Cassell a longer time for the experiment.

564. Do you consider there is great traffic in that road?—I can give you the general daily average of the number of carriages, &c. that pass upon the road: I have five carriages with four horses, 72 carriages with two horses, 120 gigs, flys, &c. with one horse, 110 single horses, five waggons with six, four or five horses, 10 carts with two or three horses, 36 carts with one horse; that is the daily average for the year.

565. And it has not required any repair?—No.

566. In your observation, does this road do better in winter or summer?—It appears to me to make no difference in winter or summer; it was laid on in the heat of the summer.

567. From observation, you would prefer it to any other road, in point of economy and wear?—Yes; and another thing is, that as we are dependent a good deal on the number of carriages that come upon the road, it is a great advantage

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that there should be no obstruction in putting on new gravel; this road does away with that, and we get the carriages without any obstruction.

568. Mr. *Fleming.*] Is not the surface affected by the state of the atmosphere so as to become dangerously slippery for horses?—It is covered with road-dust, which seems to adhere immediately while it is hot, and there seems to be no slippiness in it. A great advantage would be, that narrow wheels would do as well upon it as broad wheels.

569. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] What was the cost to the Vauxhall-bridge Company?—We agreed to give Cassell 6*d.* a superficial yard for the first year, and 3*d.* a yard so long as he kept it to our satisfaction.

570. Sixpence a yard?—Yes; 38*l.* 15*s.* was the whole amount we paid to him, making it and laying it down; we did it on this ground: Mr. Cassell, when he applied to us, asked us 3*s.* 6*d.* a yard; we said, no; as it is an experiment, we will give up 100 yards of our road, and will make a contract with you for a certain period to make this road, and keep it in repair. We then made our calculation as to what it would cost us otherwise, and we said then, that if Mr. Cassell chooses to take it, we will give him the advantage of having the road for the experiment, paying him 6*d.* for the first year, and 3*d.* every year afterwards. Mr. Cassell said, it would last for 10 or 20 years without any repair; then we said, that would be a certain annuity to you afterwards.

571. Mr. *Childers.*] What is the comparison of that expense with the average expense?—Our average expense, for common materials, would be 5*d.* per square yard.

572. Per annum?—When I first came the road had been greatly neglected; it required a great deal to bring it up to what it is now. I can form no idea what the annual expense would be.

573. Do you imagine that, if you had the whole road done in the same way as this, it would be cheaper to you than the present way of keeping the road in repair?—The calculations I have made for the 10 years, the saving, for the whole road, would be about 1,000*l.*

574. What is the length of the whole road?—Nearly three-fourths of a mile.

575. What is the annual expense of repairing?—I should suppose somewhere about 250*l.* a year.

576. A saving in your opinion of about one-third?—Yes.

577. Mr. *Roche.*] Do you repair the roads by contract?—We repair them ourselves. I have the management of them, under the direction of the committee.

578. You prefer this sort of patent road to the other?—Decidedly, as far as I have been able to judge.

579. Both from its durability, from its being cheaper, and from the circumstances that you have mentioned, that it at once becomes a perfect road?—Yes.

580. But against that, is there not the inconvenience of the traffic when you lay it down in the first instance?—Very little, because it is done in patches; it will take up but little time, and the traffic will pass on the one side, while the other side is done; and the only inconvenience is the machine being there for three weeks.

581. Assuming you have used the best means you can find of making and maintaining your road, this, in your opinion, is decidedly the best mode of forming the road, and the most economical, and the most lasting?—Yes.

582. Mr. *Childers.*] You have not found, on the breaking up of a frost, this road suffered at all?—No.

583. Not at all more slippery after a frost than other roads?—Not more so than any other.

Jovis, 12° *die Maii*, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.
Lord Viscount Clive.
Colonel Rushbrooke.
Mr. John W. Fleming.
Mr. Ormsby Gore.
Mr. David Roche.
Mr. Chalmers.
Mr. Childers.
Lord Viscount Lowther.

WILLIAM A. MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Thomas Penson*, called in; and Examined.

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584. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] WHERE do you reside?—At Oswestry, in the county of Salop.

585. What situation do you hold?—County surveyor for Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire, and surveyor of the public works in these counties.

586. In that capacity, do the turnpike-roads of these two counties fall under your care?—No.

587. Are you surveyor of any district of roads in that part of the country?—I am surveyor of a great portion of the first district of the Montgomeryshire roads, the whole of the second district, and the whole of the third district; and I am called in by the trustees of the fourth district, whenever there are any alterations or improvements to make in lines within their districts. I am also surveyor of the Oswestry Trust, which is situate in the county of Salop, and in portions of Denbighshire; and I am surveyor of the roads from Shrewsbury to Pool, which are called the Shelton and Pool Districts. These are appointments which I have held since 1820 and 1822.

588. That is from 14 to 16 years?—Yes.

589. When were you appointed county surveyor in Montgomeryshire?—In 1817, and for Denbighshire, in 1819.

590. May I ask you to state, in detail, what extent of road you consider under your survey?—I have, as nearly as possible, 350 miles of road, which are absolutely turnpike-roads at present made, under my immediate management; and there are other roads which are making, or within the several districts, but not yet become turnpike-roads, to the amount of about 130 miles more.

591. One hundred and thirty miles in process of making?—Yes, those are within the limits of the Act of Parliament which was obtained about two years ago, and they are now partially in progress.

592. They have been surveyed, and are now in progress?—Yes, 130 miles, as near as I can calculate. I see I have in hand at present new lines of road of about 30 miles.

593. That is a portion of the 130 miles?—Yes, including lines which form alterations in the old roads.

594. Allow me to ask you, with regard to the manner in which these lines are acquired, whether they become very expensive as to the purchase of the land over which they are to run?—In point of fact, we hardly know what it is to pay for land.

595. Will you explain that to the Committee?—I have been actively engaged for the period I have stated, and have expended very large sums of money in either forming new lines, or in deviations from the existing lines of road; and I think in the whole of my engagements in that way, 200 *l.* would cover the full amount of the purchase of land.

596. *Chairman.*] Was that from the low value of the land, or from the benefit your new line of road conferred upon the proprietors and persons in the neighbourhood?—From the great interest which those parties, who had large properties as well as small ones in those districts in which I have been concerned, took in the improvements, and not from the low value; because we are very frequently cutting through lands of very considerable value.

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597. Lord *Lowther.*] I suppose it is open land, a good deal?—No, it is principally inclosures. I have now instructions from one proprietor to make a line of road through his inclosures, for nearly four miles in extent. He gave the whole of his land; and he advances 1,000 *l.* towards that new line himself.

598. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Will you give me leave to ask you whether you do not consider that the power over these turnpike-roads being vested in trustees, has something to do with the interest taken by the gentlemen of the county?—My opinion is this: that the interest which the gentlemen of the neighbourhood, and the large proprietors take in the formation of new lines there, is, in a great measure, caused by their anxiety for the public good; and from a feeling that they are not bound down by any limitations in the powers with which they are invested, when they exercise their duties with that discretion and zeal which I have always seen them endeavour to exert.

599. Now, allow me to ask you, in the construction of these roads, what system do you adopt?—It depends entirely upon the locality.

600. Am I to understand by that, in some parts you form them of broken stone entirely, in other parts of pavement, as a foundation, with broken stone being laid on; or what other plan do you adopt?—I have never adopted any other course, than either to lay down a foundation, which is called Mr. Telford's system; or by the entire formation of the road with broken stone of a uniform size.

601. And you say it depends upon locality?—Yes.

602. Will you be kind enough to describe accurately your different modes of forming these roads. As you have 130 miles now in progress, and as it depends on locality, you of course adopt various modes of forming these roads in various parts; will you describe them shortly?—Where the material is of that description that is suitable for pavement, and can be obtained close upon the spot, I lay down a close pavement of stone, with the square sides down, and fill up the interstices upon the upper surface with the chippings of broken stone, so as to form a foundation of seven inches thick in the middle, by four or five inches thick on the sides, for the whole width between the fences. The centre of the roadway, so far as is sufficiently wide for the traffic, is coated with stone, broken so as to pass in the largest dimension through a ring of two inches and a half in diameter for seven inches thick, and the space between this metalling, and the fences or paths, coated with stone of the same description, but not so well prepared. In places where no material of a fit description for a pavement can be obtained conveniently, after having formed a substratum, that is, brought the surface to a proper state and proper convexity, I cover it with broken stones of a uniform size to the depth of twelve inches, but not in one layer. I do not put the whole body of stone at once in either case upon the road.

603. From your experience, having practised both, which mode of making a road do you consider the best, the pavement which you spoke of or the broken stone?—I consider, with reference to future repairs, to the solidity of the road and to its drainage, that a pavement laid as a foundation is an advantageous mode, and ultimately will produce a saving in repairs, where materials can be had suitable to the purpose.

604. Will you explain what you mean by a pavement?—A foundation of stone is laid with its square side downwards, which I consider a very material part of the practical arrangement of that system.

605. You say it tends much towards the draining of the road; do you not consider the draining of the road in the first instance a most necessary operation as to permanency, and as to forming a good surface?—I am satisfied, unless a road is drained, and there is full opportunity for the water which percolates through the road to make its escape, you never can have an efficient road.

606. For the purpose of draining the road, I wish to ask you, do you put your open drains inside the field or on the road side of the hedge?—Wherever the surface admits of a drainage, on the field side of the fence; I invariably put it there; where there is deep cutting or side-lying ground, where great expense would be incurred by making a ditch on the field side, I put the drain within the fence, and I fill it up with broken stone; into this drain, which communicates with the culverts, the mitre drains are brought, and these side drains serve to under-drain the road, but have nothing to do with the surface water. In order to prevent the water from the upper lands passing down upon the road, or getting down into the substratum, a drain is cut above the slope, upon side-lying ground.

607. Do you consider it necessary to have abutments from the road, or, in other words

words, do you consider it necessary to have strength at the sides of the road for the purpose of preventing the weight which goes over the centre from pressing it outwards?—I will exemplify the necessity of having the sides of the road strengthened by that which I have invariably found in practice. If I want to reduce an inequality of trifling inclination without breaking up the surface of the road, I desire the men to cut down the sides, that is to give the surface of the road a greater convexity than it should properly have to make it a good road, by which I always find the centre of the road goes down; and if it is a place where the expense of cutting through would be a consideration, or the wearing out the road would be an advantage, so as to lay down a better bottoming, I always find this course is effectual. With regard to the abutments; if it is an abutment of a tenacious soil, it is better moved at any cost, inasmuch as it confines what moisture percolates between the metalling, the surface of which, in a new formed road, cannot be so completely consolidated as to keep it out, and therefore it is retained by the argillaceous or retentive nature of the soil; and unless drained off under the abutments and through the fences, at a greater depth than the depth of the metal, you will always have some degree of moisture in the metalling of the road; but however the road is formed, or whatever quantity of broken material is put upon that portion which may be considered the serviceable part of the road, I should always advise that the space between the extremity of the metal, and the fence or path, should be filled up with material which is not of a tenacious nature, and which will not retain the moisture.

608. But if you have the opportunity which, from the answer you gave to a former question, you may have in some places, of forming a stone abutment, do you consider that advisable?—I consider that the surface of the road is an arch, to a certain extent, being formed upon a circular substratum, and if you remove these abutments you naturally destroy in some degree its power of resisting the vertical pressure, inasmuch as ruts are not formed in a new-made road by the total sinking of the material into the subsoil, but by the metal being pressed out laterally; and it is of consequence, that the portion of the road forming the sides should be closely made. Probably I had better state it in this way; instead of cutting out a trough, into which to put the materials, I should back up the materials with something which will permit the moisture to pass from that portion of the road which is coated for traffick, but not to back it up with a retentive soil, or anything that will retain moisture.

609. *Chairman.*] Your answer to the last question is, if I understand you right, that you do not approve of any hard substance between the end of the road and the ditch, but you would prefer filling that up with loose materials, so as to give a space for the water to drain through; how do you reconcile that answer with what you have just stated, as to the road being an arch requiring support, it being perfectly evident, if the substance is loose at the end of the road between that and the ditch, so as to permit the water to percolate through it, it is impossible that can act as an abutment to the arch?—By filling up the sides with loose materials to the level of the metalling, I mean with broken stone, the pavement, where there is one, having been made the full width between the fences, the materials for the sides not being of so expensive a preparation as the metalling of the centre of the road, but tending precisely to the same purpose which that is calculated to ensure; they will also act as a drain, while the centre of the road is becoming of that nature as to prevent so much moisture percolating through.

610. But assuming your theory to be correct, that the road is an arch, as you have stated, if the materials on each side are loose, or nothing but broken stones, it is perfectly true they will not afford a substratum, or positive resistance to the water; but is not that at variance with what you have stated as to the necessity of the road being supported on each side?—No, they would be a support.

611. You state that the road is an arch, that is, resting entirely on the two extremities of the arch, so that the chord should be horizontal; but you have a road resting on the materials under it, and therefore how can you call a road an arch?—When I say a road is an arch, it is merely an arch to this extent, that the convex surface of the road, as also the formation of the substratum, is more in extent than the chord would be; and as the pressure tends to bring that into a straight line, it must meet with resistance before it can get so. The more perfect you make that resistance, the more perfect you make your arch; but nothing can be positively an arch depending on its abutments, except that which is perfectly radiated and laid close in courses. If you have a convex surface, that convex

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surface must be more difficult to be compressed into a straight line, where it has a substance in the nature of an abutment to resist it.

612. Lord *Clive.*] In speaking of an arch, you do not mean that the road is a perfect arch?—Quite the contrary. I apprehend I did not distinctly understand the question first put to me; I conceived I was asked whether it was advisable, as is very frequently the case, to cut away very deeply at the side of the road to form a marginal line, or whether it is better to keep up the side of the road, which necessarily strengthens it. With regard to the abutment, the abutment I spoke of should be of the same description as the under pavement; and I am of opinion that the pavement which forms the foundation, should be carried across, that each side, from the formation of the metalling, which is on the centre of the road, should be close filled with the same description of stone, not so well prepared.

613. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] In proportion as the road approaches a level surface, having sufficient descent to enable the wet to fall off the road, you consider that is an approximation to an arch sufficient for the formation of a road?—Yes, it is merely for the purpose of keeping it dry.

614. On the event of the convexity of such a road being, from circumstances, greater in one case than another will depend the necessity of having an abutment, or a shoulder to the road?—It would not be preferred, or advantageous under any circumstances, to form a road with greater convexity than is absolutely requisite.

615. In the event of its being necessary to have an abutment to support the central pressure of the road, do you not consider that it is absolutely necessary that there should be a means of drainage through that abutment to enable the water to escape off the road?—That is the reason why I prefer having the road, on its sides or its abutments, beyond the wearable part of the road, formed of materials which will act as a drain, instead of its being, as it generally is, formed with a retentive soil to the height of the pavement.

616. Mr. *Roche.*] Do you not think the scraping of the mud from the centre of the road to what are called the sides of the road, would very soon render that as impervious to the water as the subsoil that was under it?—Supposing this portion to be constructed of more perfect materials than that which forms the centre of the road.

617. Supposing the road is 30 feet in the centre, and your sides are five feet each, footpath and all, would not that, by the scraping of the mud, very soon be as impervious to the water as the substratum underneath?—It would not become impervious to the water so soon as the surface of that part of the road over which the traffic would pass. That would obtain a consistency which the sides, not having so much traffic, would not; and I have always put drains below through any portion of what may be called the abutment or the shouldering, which is the provincial term usually given to it, sufficiently deep to draw off all moisture from the metalling of the road, whether it is of broken stone or a pavement.

618. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] How do you maintain that shouldering, provided the ditch be on the road side; would you think it necessary to use that if the ditch were on the road side instead of the field side?—If there is a ditch on the road side that is put entirely below the depth of the metalling, and filled with broken stone.

619. If you have an old ditch next the field, you do not want the shouldering; but how do you maintain that shouldering of loose stones, provided the ditch be on the road side; you have no solid earth on the road side to keep it in its place; do you apply the shouldering where the ditch happens to be on the road side, and not upon the field side of the road?—In all cases, where we have a ditch on the road side of the fence, it is entirely filled up with broken stone, and brought level with the surface before any materials are put on; it is covered up below the level of the pavement, and not made at all a conduit for the surface water. If the surface water gets down into that ditch it destroys the drain; we cover that up, and do not allow it to be a drain for the surface water, but the under water only; and the surface water is conducted, by proper surface channels, into the drains or culverts which cross the road.

620. Mr. *Roche.*] When the ditch is on the other side, you do not require the expense of filling it; you carry it off by a drain, which is continually kept open, and that is carried off by a culvert into a ditch?—Yes.

621. *Chairman.*] Do you remember Mr. M'Adam stating that the way he constructed a road was simply by making two ditches, one on each side, and laying his materials on so that the surface water is what ought to be thrown into the ditches

ditches for the whole width of the road?—So do I, in nine miles out of ten, where I have the management of the road. I do not invariably form a footpath above the level of the road; it is not required.

622. Then you have two ditches?—Yes, one on the inner side of the field, on each side of the road, where we have the opportunity of so doing. If I make a causeway, the surface of the causeway is raised generally a little above the level of the convex surface of the road, and underneath that the whole is drained out into the side ditches on the field side.

623. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Give me leave to ask you what your opinion is of the elasticity of a road?—Where a road is non-elastic, it is where it is formed upon a rock; and I am sure it is within the knowledge of every honourable Member here, that when you have a road upon a rock, it wears more rapidly, and never wears so smoothly as it does upon a softer surface. I would, before I made my road, break up the rock to a certain extent, so as to destroy the positive resisting power; for if you do not do so, the materials would be ground down.

624. Then what is the object of a pavement. You say you make a substratum of large stones, with the square sides downwards?—I do not consider that destroys the elasticity. In comparing that substratum with the rock, you find that the rock does destroy the elasticity; but that is not the case with the pavement, for if it did it would wear out over the pavement as rapidly as it does over a rock.

625. Then is the Committee to understand that you consider that a pitched foundation forms an elastic road?—To a certain extent.

626. As well as broken stone?—Yes, but not to so great an extent.

627. Which of those two do you consider the most advisable, provided the materials are equally convenient for both?—I would pave.

628. Lord *Lowther.*] Did you ever make a road bottom of brick rubbish; in the pulling down of a house, for instance?—I am not aware that I have, to any extent.

629. Have you had any opportunity of observing how a road wears in that manner?—Not to any extent; but that would depend on the soil.

630. Have you ever put a bottoming of sand between the stones and the clay?—If I have been forming a road on a clay bottom, and had small gravel convenient, I have put on a coating of two or three inches of that gravel before I put on the broken pebbles.

631. How have you found that answer?—I have found it answer very well.

632. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] In these 350 miles you have under your survey, of course you have a variety of materials; may I ask in what proportions they are?—In point of fact, over an extent of mountainous country, we have all kinds of stone; we have whinstone, limestone, trap, basalt, and slate; we have every description, except that we have no granite at all.

633. Do you consider slate a material for roads?—No, I merely mentioned it; it is not the description of slate perhaps which honourable Members are acquainted with, it is a slate stone.

634. Mr. *Roche.*] I think you stated, from five to seven inches is the depth of your pavement?—Yes.

635. What depth of materials, broken stone, have you on the top of that?—I suppose six or seven inches.

636. Now if you could put the whole 14 inches of broken stone, without reference to the cost, which should you prefer in that case?—I should prefer the pavement.

637. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Now allow me to ask you, with reference to the cost of these two different species of road; you have stated that you make the roads according to the locality, therefore, it is of course according to the materials which are found most convenient; what do you consider the expense of a pitched foundation, with broken stone on the top, per mile, as compared with a broken stone road?—The extra expense of making a road 30 feet wide entirely of broken stone, above the expense of making a road of the same width with a "laid foundation," where the materials are of an equally durable quality and are equally convenient to the line, would in my opinion amount to 72 *l.* per mile. There are situations where the difference in expense would be greater than this calculation, and there are localities where the materials are of that description, that a road, formed entirely of broken stone, would be less expensive than a road formed upon a "laid foundation."

638. You stated that you prefer a pavement or pitched foundation, because you consider

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consider it only rendered the road non-elastic to a certain extent?—I consider elasticity is not completely prevented by a paved foundation. In general, of course it is the fact, that where you have a non-elastic road, you have a road which is wearing out the material; but the stronger or more even you can render the road, so that it is not non-elastic, as if it were upon a rock, that is the best road you can form. You may have a better substratum than a rock, but I am satisfied, from what experience I have had, that if you lay a pavement of broken stone upon a rock, without breaking up the rock to some extent, the materials will very soon be ground away.

639. But there must be a greater impediment offered to vehicles by a road which yields by its elasticity?—Yes, it depends upon the degree of elasticity. If it be to any extent, of course a carriage is more impeded the more elastic a road is; it requires greater power in the horse, because he must be drawing up hill even upon a level surface.

640. Lord *Lowther.*] Do you not find a disposition in the large stones which are placed at the bottom, to shake up to the top?—It depends in a great measure how they are placed. I have seen a pavement extremely badly laid, and a great deal of pavement I have seen prejudiced by carts going over it for the purposes of carrying materials to the road before any portion of the metalling was put on, by which the formation and advantages of the pavement were completely destroyed; and unless the contractor is very carefully watched he will do that. He will not carry his materials along the lands, or any other route, but he will travel over the road; and, as is invariably the case, he will not metal it as he goes on, but carry his metal over the road upon which he makes this wheel-track, and thereby destroys the formation of the pavement.

641. But, without the pavement coming up by the elasticity of the road, do you not see the large stones generally come up?—If the broken material is laid on and stones of a larger size are laid at the bottom as a portion of the metalling, these large stones will invariably work up.

642. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Has not the wearing of the smaller materials which coat the road, something to do with the larger materials working to the surface?—If the pavement is properly laid, and the interstices perfectly well filled, and a sufficient body of materials laid on that, and of uniform size so as to prevent the lower body from being disturbed, it cannot move.

643. Mr. *Roche.*] What advantage do you find in a pavement over the entire substance being made of broken stone?—I think it is a better drain; and, where the material is suitable to the purpose, it is done at a less expense.

644. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Then we may comprise the result of your evidence upon the subject of "laid roads," and "broken stone roads," in your reply to this question, where the locality admits of one being cheaper made than the other, then you give the preference to that particular one, but where you have the opportunity of making both you prefer a laid road?—I do. Over a considerable portion of the road on which I have been employed, there are localities where I could not obtain that description of materials which I could advise for a "laid road;" as I before stated, where that could be done, a smaller body of broken stones will be sufficient, and it may happen that the materials for a "laid road" may sometimes be obtained at a greater expense than will answer the purpose.

645. Lord *Lowther.*] You do not consider it is worth the extra expense?—I do not. I was about to explain, in answer to a former question, with reference to what I term the abutments; I am led to think I have been in some degree misunderstood as to what I consider the abutments of the road, and I was going to exemplify it by a circumstance which has occurred in the present year. A line of road had been made in Shropshire, portions of it had been "laid" and portions of it had been "broken stone." It was executed under a specification in a great measure prepared after the forms of the specification that had been adopted on the Holyhead line of road, but the whole of the sidings (if I may so call them, now termed abutments, which term I was led into using by the hon. Member having adopted it who first asked me the question), up to the level of the metal, with the exception of an inch or two of small gravel which was laid on the surface, were formed of nothing but clay; that line was through a wet clay country to the extent of nearly ten miles, and the trustees found the road becoming perfectly useless, they could not travel along it. There was a dispute between the contractor and the commissioners, and I was requested to go and examine it; I did so, and I cut the road across in many situations, and found the

the entire width of the coating full of water; and the advice I gave them was to take out their abutments, and to fill them up with broken stones as soon as they could, otherwise they would never have the road free from moisture; and they are now doing so.

646. Mr. *Roche.*] You say you prefer laid roads, where the material does not make it more expensive?—Yes, where the comparative expense will admit of that course being adopted.

647. But I understand the same material is applied, only in different sizes?—No.

648. The road is laid with the same sort of stone as that which forms the covering?—No, you can reduce that which will do for a laid road into materials which will do for small metalling; but you cannot make the materials that will do for small metalling for a broken stone road do for a laid road. If you go through a gravel or small pebble country, or through a country where the lamina of the stone are thin or of slate formation, you cannot form a pavement, it is not advisable to do so with such materials.

649. Lord *Lowther.*] Softer stone will do for pavement than for the coating?—Yes, then it becomes useful. Supposing you are passing over a country where the material is sandstone, you can get a bottoming at a small expense; the materials will cost more which are fit for the metalling than for the pavement; so that, in that case, a laid road would be by far the best and least expensive.

650. Mr. *Roche.*] I think you said just now your principal object in preferring a pavement was for the drainage of the road?—Yes, and for the saving in repair.

651. I believe the drainage of a road is a most material point in the formation of it?—Yes.

652. Will you explain how anything that is put on the surface of the road is to assist in the draining; as I have always understood that making a road impervious to the water is the great object, so that the substratum should not be affected by the water on the surface?—That you cannot obtain, except by continued wear and continued pressure; the surface of the road does sooner become impervious to the water than that which is beneath, but a certain degree of moisture must always percolate through the road; and so long as you have the material of the road in anything like a loose state, the water is sure to get down to the bottom, and unless you have the means of draining that off, you decidedly cannot keep your road sufficiently dry.

653. It surely will be done quicker between those large stones than a body of small stones which are shook together every day by pressure?—The pressure upon a body of small stone in the wheel-track will cut down into the substratum, and the small stones, are more readily sunk below the level of the original road than a laid road.

654. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] But in case of the surface being sufficiently solid, the wet will go off by evaporation, where the road is properly formed?—In an old laid road the surface water is conducted into the side ditches.

655. Suppose it is not conducted at all, would not your road become so thoroughly iron, from the greater amount of use, that it will become impervious to wet, and whatever wet there is will go off by evaporation?—The surface of a turnpike road, formed of broken metal, can never be sufficiently tenacious to resist moisture, or be impervious to water. A bituminous road, being formed of a different material, would not be affected from the depth of road way; but my impression is, that in the formation of a new road you very frequently are obliged to adopt a very different course to that which you would use in repairing an old one; and if you can possibly attain a perfect drainage, until the road is compressed by wear, the lower as well as the upper part, upon any hard stratum not in the nature of a rock, you by that means arrive at a better road, as well as a more perfect one.

656–7. What is the average width of your roads?—We have been in the habit of making the wearing part of the road 16 or 18 feet wide; but there are some roads which are from 28 to 30 feet in the clear.

658–9. That is the width of metalling?—Yes.

660. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] You have stated that the expense of making a "laid road" would be 72 *l.* per mile less than the expense of making "the broken stone road," where the materials are equally cheap; will you state what is the cost per mile?—I have formed roads, dependent on locality, at from 600 *l.* to 1,000 *l.* per mile. I should say when the materials have been very convenient,

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and the surface of the country over which the road is to be carried suitable for the purpose, I have formed roads for less than 500 *l.* per mile, exclusive of the fences.

661. Lord *Lowther.*] What do you allow for forming a road, previous to your laying down your metal?—We have had situations where we have given 65 *l.* per mile for the formation of a road; and I have paid as much as 330 *l.* for the formation, without either expensive embankments or expensive cuttings.

662. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] You say that, at an expense of from 600 *l.* to 1,000 *l.* per mile, you have made them without fences on each side?—Yes.

663. May I ask your reason for excluding the fences?—In many instances the proprietors have fenced at their own expense; in other instances, and which I endeavour if I possibly can to obtain, I agree with the party, either the landlord or the tenant, to make his own fences, inasmuch as by that means difficulties are avoided, and the parties are generally better satisfied. Probably I should state, in all cases where I have been concerned, I receive so much assistance from the landed proprietors, who take so great an interest in the improvement of the roads that those sort of things are done for infinitely less money than they actually cost.

664. You have stated from 600 *l.* to 1,000 *l.* per mile; now does the difference very much arise from the facility of procuring materials?—It is the facility of procuring the materials, and the expense of the original formation which makes the difference.

665. What do you consider the average expense of fencing a new road?—The average expense would probably be 15 *s.* per rood forward, which would be 165 *l.* per mile.

666. Taking both sides?—Yes.

667. What height do you raise the bank?—If I had my own way, I should not have a bank at all.

668. What is the average height when you do have a bank?—Never more than two feet.

669. Is it 15 *s.* per rood each side?—No; in fact, I may state a circumstance which occurred in a new line of road I now have, where the trustees are paying 13 *s.* on each side, that is 26 *s.* per rood forward, for making the fences; and finding gates as well.

670. Do you consider 15 *s.* a rood a fair average price?—Taking all descriptions of fences together, I do.

671. Do you mean, taking both sides of the road?—Yes, 7 *s.* 6 *d.* each, is that which we are generally allowing.

672. That is 15 *s.* for the two sides of the road?—Yes, which would be at the rate of 165 *l.* per mile.

673. What do you call a rood?—Eight yards.

674. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] When these roads have been made from 500 *l.* to 1,000 *l.* per mile, what has been the annual cost of keeping them in repair?—I have roads under my management, which cost from 5 *l.* to 60 *l.* per mile to keep in repair. There are some roads upon which the turnpike trusts run, where probably not more than 5 *l.* per annum per mile has been expended on them; and on others, there has been 60 *l.* per mile per annum.

675. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Then, with regard to the management of your accounts over those roads, will you give me leave to ask you how that is arranged; do you keep a distinct account for particular lines, or do you take the whole district together?—It depends on the district; there are some districts in Montgomeryshire, for which I am concerned; the first district, where the trustees keep their separate accounts of each small portion of road distinct.

676. In the same district?—In the same district; the trust extends over four districts, and the first district has been in the habit of keeping their accounts of each portion of road separate and distinct; that is, if the income of the road from *A.* to *B.* is 500 *l.*, that 500 *l.* is kept distinct, and the whole expenditure of that line of road is also kept distinct. The income of the second district is now formed entirely into one fund since the passing of the Act of Parliament, two years ago. The third district had always done that since I have been appointed their surveyor; and they make one common fund, and expend their money wherever the trustees in their judgment think best. In the Oswestry district, for which I am concerned, each account is kept separate.

677. You

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677. You have stated that some of the districts take the whole gross sum?—Yes, the whole gross receipts.

678. Now can you state from memory, or from any document you have, the extent of mileage in one of those districts which takes the gross sum and the gross amount of expense?—Yes, the following is a statement of the revenue of the roads in the Montgomeryshire Road Act, and the expenditure in the repairs and improvements for one year. I should state, that the second portion of the first district is superintended by a committee of trustees, and is not under the management of a general surveyor. The fourth district is under the management of a surveyor appointed by the trustees of that district.

——	Revenue from Tolls.	Incidental Receipts.	Contribution in lieu of Statute Duty.	Length of Road in Miles.	Expended in Repairs.	Expended in Improvements.	Estimated Value of Statute Duty performed.	Mortgage Debt.	——
	£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£.	
1st portion of the 1st District	2,062	121 14 –	249 11 4	70	1,260 8 3	800 – –	420 13 4	11,365	For the year ending 31 Dec. 1834.
2d portion of ditto - -	938	- -	96 4 7	66	836 7 –	4,681 – –	282 – –	11,531	
Second District - -	2,868	7 10 –	470 7 8	91	1,159 – –	3,036 – –	611 6 8	22,896	For the year ending 31 Dec. 1835.
Third District - - -	2,182	82 14 10	228 2 10	96	972 – –	393 – –	407 19 –	9,487	
Fourth District - - -	833	- -	133 9 –	60	401 12 6	1,446 4 –	151 19 2	6,794	
Oswestry District, under a separate Act - -	2,972	49 5 6	43 – –	80	1,780 – –	405 – –	375 10 –	10,381	For the year ending Dec. 1835.

679. These are the annual repairs?—Yes.

680. Are they usually the same?—There has been less expended in the last two years than the previous years, in repair, inasmuch as a very expensive Act was to be paid for, and it was paid out of the income of the trust without borrowing any money. In the first portion of the district for which I am concerned, the income is 2,062 *l.*, the mileage 70 *l.*, and the expense of repairs 1,260 *l.* 8 *s.* 3 *d.*

681. Now will you allow me to ask you about the repairs; do you repair them by contract, or is it done by overseers engaging the men themselves?—It is not done by contract, that is, as far as entering into a contract for keeping such portion in repair; but everything is done that possibly can be done by task-work. The whole of the metal is prepared in that way, and the carriage over the whole of that district will not probably amount to more than 20 *l.* The statute duty has done the principal part; but every thing that has been done, both with respect to the preparing the material and the repairs, is done by task-work; the work by day is not more than one-third of the expenditure in repairs.

682. In no part of it do you contract for the repairs per mile?—None.

683. Have you ever tried that system?—I have.

684. Have you found that succeed?—I have found it a source of continued litigation, always involving the trust in some dispute with the contractors, who must make a profit.

685. The rule is, the smallest quantity of work for the largest payment?—Yes.

686. *Chairman.*] Have you turned your attention towards the eligibility of substituting another revenue for that of tolls for the repair of roads?—I have never considered that was so much in my department as it would be in the department of the Legislature.

687. Have you ever considered the eligibility of consolidating the management as well as the funds of trusts?—In the preparation of the Montgomeryshire Act I was directed by the trustees to prepare for their opinion a scheme for the consolidation, or at least for a change in those trusts, as then constituted, and which have now become consolidated under the last Local Act, which was obtained two years ago.

688. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] You have had a good deal of experience in the care of roads under the consolidated trust, and under a district of roads where they are not consolidated?—Yes.

689. What is your opinion on the subject; are there very great advantages resulting from the consolidation of the trust?—Decidedly; there are decided advantages where the trust is consolidated to a certain extent; where there is a consolidation

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a consolidation of means, as also a consolidation of the system of management; for where small improvements tend to very little advantage by the consolidation of trusts, great improvements have been carried on which have operated uniformly very much to the benefit of the district, and also to increase the funds of the trust.

690. Give me leave to ask you upon that, what you consider would be the proper extent for consolidation; taking a given centre of a circle, to what extent would you make that radiate?—I should conceive from my own experience, from having been concerned for different trusts in the locality where I am, a trust should be from 100 to 120 or 130 miles. I do not myself consider that consolidation will be carried to so good an extent as it may be, if it is merely a consolidation as to a district. I think a second description of consolidation would tend greatly to the benefit of the neighbourhood; that is, if you had two or three trusts, or half a dozen trusts to the amount of 100 or 120 miles each, there is another advantage which would arise from a consolidation of those trusts which we should find generally to be for the benefit of the whole, by being able to carry on improvements which probably any one individual trust could not well do with their means.

691. You mean to put them under one management?—Yes.

692. Lord *Clive.*] Do you think, with an extent of trust of from 100 to 120 miles, one surveyor would be able to look after it?—Yes; I conceive a surveyor would be able efficiently to look over five or six of these trusts.

693. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] I want to know to what extent under the same surveyor you consider a consolidation might be carried?—That would entirely depend on the duties which the surveyor would have to perform. If he were to be the general surveyor for the purpose of directing a general management, and directing the expenditure, and taking the whole charge of the trust, and nothing more than that, of course its extent should be greater than if he was limited to the details.

694. But what would that extent be, in your opinion, which he would be able to manage?—I should conceive he could manage from 600 to 1,000 miles of road.

695. An active man?—Yes, of course he must be so.

696. *Chairman.*] Your impression is, that from 100 to 150 miles of road of consolidation would be a proper extent?—I think local interests are more likely to be better attended to where the district of the trust is not more extended.

697. Would there not be inconvenience in the trustees attending from a distance of 75 miles, supposing you made the centre of your trust in the middle of the line?—I do not contemplate that that trust will be in a line; I assume that the road is within a circle.

698. I do not think it is so necessary to take the 150 miles of road in one trust, as to take the distance from the centre of the trust, because there may be in some parts of the country very few roads within a circle of 100 miles, and there may be in other parts of the country a vast number of miles of road which would be convenient to put in the same trust. I wish you to state what extent of road you think the same trustees could take the management of, taking a radius or the diameter of the centre if you please?—I should conceive a road of from 15 to 25 miles from a common centre, would not be more than the trustees could manage, because the trustees are located on each side of the district, and their interests are extended.

699. Lord *Clive.*] Would not that depend to a certain degree on the disposition for business of the trustees?—Yes; and on the resident gentry in the neighbourhood of the road, and the necessity there would be for more or less attendance.

700. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Do you think there is much advantage gained by the gentry of the neighbourhood having the superintendence of those roads as trustees?—I am perfectly satisfied, as far as my experience goes, that if it had not been for the gentry of the neighbourhood, it would have been totally out of my power to have carried into effect many improvements I have completed on the roads in which I am concerned.

701. *Chairman.*] You do not approve of a board of management in London, for the exclusive department of the roads?—Not if that board is to be so constituted as to negative the feeling for improvement which at present exists on the part

part of the gentry, and I must say to the greatest extent in the neighbourhood where I am concerned.

702. Do you think that such a board would be useful to superintend the financial department?—I think a board of that description would be extremely useful for very many purposes; but not to interfere with the executive, except under peculiar and unusual circumstances, and in calling for returns.

703. *Chairman.*] But for the purpose of passing accounts, do you think it would be an advantage to the country that there should be such a board in London?—With regard to passing accounts, the whole of the accounts of the trusts for which I am concerned are rendered monthly or quarterly; the prospective estimate is formed for the quarter, or annually, and an order of credit is given for the general repairs, or for any improvements, and cannot be exceeded unless under the recommendation of the finance committee, and approved of by the trustees at some subsequent meeting.

704. But are you not aware that country gentlemen sometimes make roads for their own benefit, apply for Acts of Parliament, and put the county or the neighbourhood to great expense for local purposes of their own; and also that the treasurers and trustees in some of these trusts require a sort of general superintendence, not with regard to the management, but with regard to the financial department?—I have never met with anything of that description. With regard to any Act of Parliament that I have been concerned in, I have invariably found that gentry have been the parties who have come forward most liberally. In the new lines of road forming under the Montgomeryshire Act, obtained two years ago, the parties themselves must find the money for any new line; they cannot come upon the general fund at all, within any portion of the district. No new line or new branch can be made at the expense of the other portion of the trust, but that new line or new branch must alone pay for the making as well as the maintenance of that line or branch.

705. Has it not come under your observation that great expenditure has been incurred on certain trusts, which, if there had been a superintending power, would not have taken place?—I can state generally, there has been no great expenditure incurred in the improvements upon any line of road on which I have been concerned, without a more than ample return in an increase of tolls, in consequence of that expenditure having been made.

706. You think then the expenditure has been judicious?—I do not know of any instance where the expenditure has not been for the general benefit.

707. How do you account then for so many trusts being in debt, and having expended more than their income?—That has not been the case in the districts upon which I have been concerned.

708. Mr. *D. Roche.*] Your answers have been principally applied to the expenditure with regard to letting gates, and receiving tolls; do you find any difficulty in obtaining payment from the collectors in these trusts?—None whatever.

709. Have there been any arrears lost by neglect?—I have known an instance of a sum of 200 *l.* or 300 *l.* having been lost in consequence of the failure of the parties, who were, at the time the gates were taken, solvent; and that their sureties have, from adverse circumstances, become insolvent before the payments were due, having been at the time of taking the gates in good circumstances.

710. *Chairman.*] From your observation, what should you say was the loss of collecting the revenue by tolls; that is, the difference between what is paid in tolls by the public and what finds its way into the treasury of the trusts?—The tolls of the trusts in which I have been concerned have been collected, generally speaking, upon as moderate terms as in any other part of the country: with few exceptions there are no gates above 500 *l.* rent. Some amount to 700*l.* or 800 *l.* and in all those cases, until within a short period, those gates have usually fallen into the hands of persons immediately in the neighbourhood, the competition having been there; and, I must say, a very legitimate competition has always been kept up. Within the last year or two some parties, who are now farmers of the post-horse duties, have endeavoured, and strenuously endeavoured, to obtain those gates by offering to the trustees to give a sum equal to the rent for the gates, provided they should be set in one lot. I am speaking now in the presence of an honourable Member, who once sat as Chairman of the Board when those gates were set; and I believe I fell greatly under the wrath of the party, because I stood up and advised the Chairman, under no circumstances whatever, to allow the old description of competition to be abandoned.

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711. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] What was the result of their not having been then set in one lot?—We have set the gates for considerably more money.

712. Mr. *Childers.*] Do you remember for how much more the gates were let on that occasion?—Our gates vary; I dare say the variation is to the amount occasionally of 10*l.* per cent. per annum, but of course they fluctuate from circumstances. A considerable fall of timber which must pass through the gates increases their value; a coach or two being put upon the road increases the value of the gates; all those are circumstances which cause the gates to fluctuate: agricultural distress also affects them.

713. Then, in fact, I understand the result of that competition of these lessees of the post-horse duties was, to raise the rent upon the line?—They would not bid on that occasion; they declined bidding, unless they could have the gates in one lot.

714. But I understand you to say, when they were defeated in that object, wishing to have the gates in one lot, the result was that the former rent was considerably increased?—Yes.

715. *Chairman.*] Is there not some discrepancy in your answers on that subject; I understood you to state, the system of collecting tolls upon this trust is as fair a one as can be adopted, yet you state that the competition of the farmers of the post-horse duties occasioned the tolls to be raised 200*l.* a year; will you explain this, as it appears that, if the result of that competition was to raise the rent for the gates upon this trust, they must have been improperly let in the former instance?—I understood the question to have been this: I was asked how the tolls were collected, and I said I thought upon as reasonable terms as they could be in any part of the country. What I meant was, the expense of collecting the tolls in the district where I am concerned. Although the rents then obtained was an increase upon the income of the former years, I do not by any means consider that the attendance of the farmers of the post-horse duties was the sole cause of it.

The competition created by the lessees of the gates within each district, or within the adjoining districts, has, in my opinion, been sufficient to secure to the trustees a fair rent.

A progressive increase in the rents has taken place (with very few exceptions), upon all the districts during the time I have been engaged on these trusts, caused by an increase in the traffic. The rents of the present year show an increase upon last year throughout the whole of the roads.

Occasionally there may be a diminution in the rent; but this can be accounted for, in most instances, by local circumstances.

716. Mr. *Childers.*] Is not the profit of the contractor a large portion of the cost of the road?—I am not of that opinion; I do not think that there is a great loss between the amount collected and the amount paid into the treasury, in those districts where I am concerned.

717. Upon an average, what should you say was the loss?—I should say the average does not exceed 7 ½, or at most 10 per cent. When I state 10 per cent., I think I can be positively satisfied from the examination I have made, and knowing the parties who are collectors.

718. Do you mean the 10 per cent. upon the expense of collecting would be the profit of the lessees?—Yes, the lessees and collectors are in almost all cases the same; and I will state why I conceive that that system is attended with economy. I have made it a point and an invariable practice, that wherever toll was to be collected in the district, to give work to the man who is the lessee, and who, in all cases in the trust where I am concerned, until this year, was absolutely a labouring man. I have always given it out as a matter of certainty, that he may depend upon having employment within the immediate precincts of his own house.

719. You mean you always prefer the lessee himself being the collector?—He always makes himself so.

720. What security have you that he will pay you the rent?—We always require security.

721. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Are you not aware that, in that year when the farmer of the post-horse duties came to bid for the tolls, some of the gatekeepers gave more for the gates than they were worth?—They certainly did, from the competition that was created; and, further than that, it was a year when the tolls were expected to increase; if it had been a year when the tolls were expected to diminish, I should have considered it my duty still to have advised the chairman to take the separate biddings for all the gates to be set up.

724. *Chairman.*]

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722. *Chairman.*] Do I understand you to say that labouring men, acting as lessees and contractors, would be willing to give up their time and labour for nothing, and give a rent greater than the tolls which have been received from the public?—They will not give a rent greater than what they receive from the public, if they know it; but they give what from their own observation and knowledge they conceive the gates to be worth. Such cases however have occurred, I have no doubt.

723. Mr. *Childers.*] Who is the responsible person in your trust for taking security?—The clerk of the trust; and a bond is taken from the party for the payment of the rent by monthly instalment in advance.

724. *Chairman.*] Have you turned your attention at all to the possibility of appointing the men who work on the roads as constables, so as to establish a highway police along the line of road, in order to prevent the escape of felons or other offenders?—I have frequently thought that the foreman, who has probably the charge of three, or four, or five miles of road, would be a very proper person to be made a special constable. In point of fact, he has now instructions from the trustees to lay informations against any parties who commit depredations on the road.

725. But he is not sworn in now?—No.

726. Do you not think if you could employ that man as superintendent, and have the labourers under him sworn as special constables, you might establish a highway police, which would be beneficial to the country?—They certainly would be a check. If it were known that these men were police officers, that would be a check upon all parties within the immediate precincts of the roads.

727. You mean upon travellers on the road?—Yes.

728. Lord *Clive.*] Would not the benefit of that be limited to the populous parts of the country?—Of course; in a mountainous district the men are very widely placed.

729. *Chairman.*] It would prevent the escape of offenders from justice?—Immediately adjoining a town it would; but men at a distance are not very well acquainted with the class of persons they would be justified in stopping.

730. Supposing you lived at Shrewsbury, and an offence was committed there, and the offender wished to get to London; if there were a highway police, would you not be able, by giving a proper description of the offender, and offering a reward, to make the highway police so active that there would be much less chance of escape than is the case at present?—It has never fallen within my department to consider that.

731. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] I think I understood you to say that you had employed some of your men on the road for that purpose?—Yes, to lodge information, but not as constables.

732. I believe you have been lately concerned in procuring an Act of Parliament for the Montgomeryshire trust, and you also know something of the obtaining the Act of Parliament for the adjoining trust; did not the expense of these Acts of Parliament come very heavy upon the trusts?—The expense of obtaining the Montgomery Act was exceedingly heavy.

733. Can you state what was the amount?—It came to 2,000 *l.* and upwards.

734. What was the expense of the Oswestry Act?—I think that was 1,200 *l.* I am not so positive as to that. I know the former Act for Montgomeryshire cost between 1,400 *l.* and 1,500 *l.*

735. Lord *Clive.*] Might not those expenses be considerably diminished, if the central board of management, which has been alluded to in the early part of your examination, had the power to authorize small lines of improvement to be made, without making it necessary for the commissioners to go to Parliament?—Certainly. I have known instances where the trusts were greatly injured in consequence of small portions of the road not being included in that district; and if any arrangement could be made by which, through the medium of the magistrates in quarter sessions, and the consent of the central board, portions of road might either be made turnpike road, or might be consolidated with other trusts, I think the advantage of a board of central control of that description, as well as a direct general management, would be very great.

736. You mean a general board of control in the country, not in London?—A board of control in London to that extent.

737. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] I understood you to speak of the inconvenience of a board of control in London for the execution of the works?—Yes.

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738. Do you think a board of control would be advantageous, with a view of reducing the expense of the consolidation of trusts in the country, and in joining smaller trusts to larger ones?—I do. Instead of going to the expense of 400 *l.* or 500 *l.* to make a small branch road a turnpike road, what has occurred to me is this, that provided a case could be made out to the magistrates at sessions, upon the application of the local board of trustees of any district within the county, that it would be an advantage to the county in which the road was that it should become a turnpike road, or that it should be consolidated with the trust to which it did not then belong, by proper notices first given that such a question would be discussed by the magistrates in open court, there being an appeal from that court to the board of control; I think if the board of control had the power of directing, upon the decision of the court of quarter sessions, forwarded to them by the clerk of the peace, without the expense of an Act of Parliament, that that portion of road should become a turnpike road, or that it should be consolidated with another trust, it would save much expense, and tend to the benefit of the locality.

739. Lord *Clive.*] Do you intend, under such circumstances, that the parties applying for it should defray the expense, or that it should be defrayed out of a general fund?—Not out of the funds of the trust, but that it should be their own Act, for which they ought to pay; and I should propose that they should be incorporated as far as powers go, but not as to means.

740. Then you would also propose, for the purpose of defraying the expense, that the parties who had that controlling power should have the power of directing what turnpike gate or gates should be placed upon the road?—Yes, of directing that it should be a turnpike road. I am satisfied myself, as a surveyor, that if Parliament could adopt any system by which the attendance of surveyors and solicitors could be obviated, and by which the expense of attending in London could be saved, the districts would be greatly benefited, much as the roads have been improved of late years; for a great part of the expenditure would be applied to their improvement which is now swallowed up in what I have always felt to be a needless and shameful waste.

741. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] What is the extent of the road comprised in that Act of Parliament which cost 2,000 *l.*?—Nearly 500 miles.

742. *Chairman.*] Have you seen the bituminous road at Pimlico?—Yes.

743. Have you been to inspect it since your arrival?—I have.

744. What is your opinion of the principle of that road?—I think the principle is an advantageous one; and I think it is applicable to the purpose for which Mr. Cassell intends it.

745. Do you think it can be brought into general use?—I should conceive not, from the very great extent of material required. The cost will of course be the criterion.

746. As far as your information goes, do you think it will answer?—That portion of it which is efficiently done appears to me to be as perfect as it was at the time it was laid down.

Lunæ, 16° die Maii, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Colonel Rushbrooke.
Mr. Fleming.	Mr. William Ormsby Gore.
Lord Viscount Clive.	Mr Childers.

WILLIAM A. MACKINNON, Esq. IN THE CHAIR.

Richard Mayne, Esq., called in; and Examined.

Richard Mayne, Esq.

747. *Chairman.*] YOU hold a situation connected with the police establishment?—I am one of the commissioners of police, with Colonel Rowan.

748. Being conversant with the subject, would you state to the Committee (subject of course, to any correction you may hereafter make on further consideration) whether or not you think it eligible to establish anything like a highway police throughout the country?—I should say, generally, that as there is at present a great deficiency of police, I think any good police would be very useful. There

There are many advantages in having a police on a road, not only in preventing those crimes which may be effected there, as highway robberies, but by stopping suspicious persons, and tracing property the produce of any felony that may have been committed; the police on the road would thus cause detection, and check the commission of the crime, by rendering difficult the conveying of the goods away along the road.

749. You think it would check felonies as well as every other offence?—It would have that effect at all places within its reach; police in any one part of the country is a protection to a certain extent to every place in its neighbourhood.

750. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] The plan was suggested of having workmen located at every one or two miles, and that they should be of sufficiently good character to constitute the police alluded to, and yet they were to be workmen on the road; what is your opinion with regard to that system?—It is difficult to give a direct answer to that; as compared with any other sytem of police, I have great difficulty in offering an opinion as to its efficacy; I can only say, generally, as I did before, that any police established upon a good system must be useful. I believe there is a great deficiency of police at present in all parts of the country, except in the metropolis and its immediate neighbourhood, and in places where, under the new Corporation Act, there has been a new system formed; but in the rural districts there is a total want of police at present. In some parts there has been a voluntary organization of a police, on the pressure of some immediate occasion for them, either from incendiarism or sheep-stealing, or crimes of any serious description becoming more prevalent in the districts; but the constables or police are usually discharged as soon as the immediate occasion for which they were wanted is over.

751. By this plan, you perceive they are living singly, and every four or five would be under a superior officer, the fifth man of them, who would perhaps have a little more control over the rest, so as to ensure a degree of discipline among them; at the same time not residing together?—If the men were well chosen and properly trained and controlled, that might be a very useful establishment for the protection of roads, and even beyond that perhaps, in places in the neighbourhood.

752. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Without wishing at once to enter into detail, you think generally, that the establishment of such a police force would be desirable?—Yes, it might; any good system of police would be useful. I believe there is a great deficiency, or rather a total want of police throughout the country.

753. Is there not a great deficiency from the want of union; that is, if an offence is committed in one parish, the local constable of that parish may probably attend to investigate the subject, but the local authorities or constables of the other parish do not consider themselves called upon to interfere?—That is a very great evil; we find it to be so from various communications we receive from the country. Constant and speedy communication is the foundation of police operations, both for the prevention of crimes, and the apprehension of offenders when they have taken place.

754. You conclude that this force might be organised in such a way as to render it effective; would you suggest any means to make it so?—I am not aware how it is proposed to carry on the management of it to a higher source than the persons immediately located on the road; that is, under whose control it is proposed to place it.

755. Suppose the surveyor of the road was a sort of chief policeman, and made reports of cases of delinquency; is that what you would recommend?—There should be some higher control than by those persons who are themselves police constables.

756. Mr. *Childers.*] That is taking the system to be applied to the whole of the roads; but suppose you took one man out of every four, that number being appointed for every four miles, in that case do you think there would be any probability of his being of use?—I should think he might; nay, even as to the whole, they may be useful, but only to a limited extent.

757. Inasmuch as if a man were placed on the road, it would be necessary for him to be looking out at night; from your knowledge of the police, what should you say would be the expense that would arise to have a man of the character that would be requisite in that case; what would it be necessary to give him, considering him only as a policeman, that is, with the view of instituting a night

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police on the road?—The pay of a police constable in town is 19*s.* a week, and their clothes are about 2*s.* a week more; he has also a small allowance of coals; and besides that, there is the prospect of promotion, which, in a large body of police, gives a great stimulus. In the country, men may be had for something less, but the amount of payment still depends on the local circumstances; 16*s.* or 17*s.* a week perhaps may be sufficient; but the men ought to be paid more than the labourers of the place, or they cannot possess the necessary authority to make them useful as constables.

758. What do you conceive would be the number of men necessary for instituting this night police on a road; that is, per mile or per miles?—I am not able to give more than a general answer to that, it would depend so much upon the neighbourhood. In the metropolitan police district, which extends as far as Brentford, and Highgate and Norwood, as we get distant from the centre, the great mass of the metropolis, the number of the men is considerably less in proportion to the extent of the district.

759. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] In what proportion?—It depends on local circumstances, and varies from time to time.

760. Mr. *Childers.*] Do you conceive it necessary to the establishment of a night police that more than one man should appear on the road at the same time?—No, I think not, if that one man is properly armed. The horse-patrol act to a certain extent beyond the metropolitan police district, to the extent of some 15 or 16 miles from town, and I believe are placed singly on duty.

761. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] The question applies not to the provinces, where there would be no horse police; but whether one man would be sufficient in the towns?—If the question apply to such towns as Manchester, Liverpool and Bristol, I should say, you must deal with them pretty much the same as with London. In the country places, as in Cumberland and Westmorland, it would be quite unnecessary to have the same proportion of police on the roads.

762. Mr. *Childers.*] The question applied to the general average of turnpike roads, excepting the very wild countries and the very populous ones; you are clearly of opinion that a man might go out alone, so far as attending to the police duties at night went, are you not?—Yes, I think so; there may be exceptions here and there.

763. If he attended to the night police, how far would he be able to attend to the road in the day-time?—I am not able to say; the most useful times for him to be employed in the night, on police duty, vary with the season; usually for two or three hours after night-fall, and the same time again towards day-break. Police will be found of the greatest use upon the roads at this season, from the hour of nine o'clock until one, and then again in the morning from four to five. In the middle of the night they are of less use comparatively, though occasionally the police are wanted at all times.

764. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] The proposition was, that there should be a man to every mile on the station on which they were employed, and that they should form the police of that line; it was then suggested, whether those four men might not be so arranged as to take both night and day work; that is, that a man should both labour in the day-time on the road, and be a policeman for one night in five; but suppose he could not perform the duty of a labourer by day, and a policeman by night, would one man for that four or five miles be a sufficiently thick distribution of night police?—In a great many parts of the country it would be quite sufficient.

765. Mr. *Childers.*] You said it would be necessary to keep a look out from about nine till one, and then from four till six; now if a man were attending to both these duties, you could perhaps tell the Committee, from your experience, what attention you could expect from him the rest of the day?—The only actual ground of comparison I could take from experience, is the attendance of our men at the magistrates' office with their cases. Certainly, sometimes they are kept as many as six or seven hours at the magistrates' office, which is quite as wearying a duty, I should think, as working on the road.

766. He would be hardly equal to more than half a day's work, if he was to be considered what you call a night policeman, would he?—No, I think not.

767. Mr. *Fleming.*] The class of persons you employ in the night police is different from those employed on the road?—Certainly; all the metropolitan police go through a very strict examination before admission into the service, and must not only be very well recommended as to moral conduct and general qualifications,

qualifications, but are required to read and write, and also to possess considerable intelligence.

768. Therefore, should you not feel apprehensive that that class of persons who work on the road would not possess sufficient intelligence?—I see great difficulty in combining the two characters. At the same time, such an establishment of police may be better than none.

769. Mr. *Childers.*] Are you inclined to think, looking at the whole case, much would be gained by employing mile-men as police; or do you not think that a separate establishment of police would not in the end be as cheap?—I should greatly prefer a separate establishment.

770. *Chairman.*] You have stated that the London policemen are well educated, and so forth; but have they not much more to do, and do you not require men of better education as policemen in London, than you require for the more ordinary constables in the country?—Yes; more especially if such constables are confined to the roads merely.

771. You stated just now, probably very justly, that you would prefer policemen whose sole duty was to be policemen, to road labourers, acting as such; but you must be well aware that the great difference in expense would make it impossible to establish that sort of police throughout the country, with any degree of efficiency; therefore, taking that into consideration, and confining your attention to the mile-men on the road, what, in your estimation, would be a fair remuneration to a labourer who might earn 12*s.* a week on the road, if he was willing, or if he was appointed, to act as constable at other times; that is, assuming that the labourer had 12*s.* a week for working on the road for 12 hours, from six to six, and assuming that it was arranged that this man should act also as a policeman or constable, what additional remuneration would you consider one of those men ought to receive?—First of all I should consider whether it was advisable to tempt the man to undertake more than he could properly perform; whether he must not do his work as a labourer badly, or be inefficient as a policeman. I think if a man works 12 hours in the day, he will not be able to do more, except now and then; a man under the stimulus of a particular occasion may.

772. Perhaps the term "policeman," used both by the witness and the Committee, may be understood to refer strictly to the duty so well performed by the police in this metropolis; but the witness, in giving an answer to the question, will bear in mind that in the event of such a police being established, acting as road labourers, the duty demanded of them would be of a very inferior description to that which is demanded from the policemen in this great metropolis?—If the men were properly elected, and kept under control, it would certainly be an improvement; in the day-time, in case of assault or misdemeanor being committed, they would be useful to act on the moment as policemen.

773. Now with regard to the feasibility of such a measure, the eligibility of the men seeming to be admitted, do you think it would occasion any great additional expense?—As to uniting the two characters, I should observe that I think you would find a great many good workmen on the road, who would be of no use as police; you must get a superior class in order to render them efficient as police, and also to raise them in the estimation of the people among whom they are to act.

774. Mr. *Childers.*] Suppose it were considered necessary to have a police generally throughout the country, would not the point resolve itself into this, whether, in your opinion, there would be any saving of expense by forming the road labourers, or some part of them, into a police?—I am unable to speak, except very loosely and very much at large, as to that; I should imagine that there would be very little gained by combining the two characters.

775. It is your opinion, that if a man forms part of a rural police, it is advisable he should give up his time entirely to that one object?—Looking to his efficiency as a policeman, unquestionably so; the expense is another consideration.

776. Have you considered it in the view of expense, namely, whether a man can extend his authority and observation over so great an extent of country as to make it as cheap to employ one man wholly as two men in part?—I should prefer having one man wholly.

777. Looking to the expense as well as to the efficiency?—I should conceive so; where you have two duties combined, you would also have a difficulty in keeping the man in health, and making him work effectually in both.

778. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] All the plans of the witness have been guided very much

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much by his experience of the very great efficiency which it is known the metropolitan police combine; but with regard to the police, as it has been denominated in the Committee, walking on the roads, it being only necessary for the men on peculiar occasions to be called out at night, and there not being the regular guards taken at night in the country as there are in London, and it being only in case of the commission of any serious crime in the neighbourhood that they would be called out for night duty at all; in fact, it being more with the view of having labourers acting in the capacity of constables to detect any criminal during the day-time when they are working on the roads, that they would be liable to be called upon, or on some extraordinary occasion when it might be necessary to bring a large body together; does the witness still remain of that opinion?—I am perhaps unavoidably biassed by what I know best from my knowledge of the police in town; I have little experience of what would be necessary in the country, or in what may be called purely a rural district; but at the same time the prevention of crime, which is the most important result to be aimed at by a police, will be much better obtained by police who can devote their whole time to the duty, by day or night, as may be required. Men who are volunteers for occasional duty will do a great deal more than you can call on them to do regularly; and I fear it would not be found that the same man could continue to perform with effect the duties of a policeman, while employed usually in working on the roads. Such an establishment, however, as has been alluded to, with good men, might be useful as police for the road.

779. Mr. *Childers.*] Are you acquainted with any of the rural guard abroad?—Not sufficient to speak of it.

780. Have you turned your mind at all to the subject of the rural police, as connected with the turnpike roads; that is, whether in any plan for a rural police, the plan of working on the high roads has been considered?—No, I have not.

781. *Chairman.*] You stated that the individuals who now work on roads are not in that situation of life to make a sufficient constabulary force; do you think that in the event of their wages being raised from 12*s.* to 15*s.* a week, that would command a sufficient force?—Yes; but then if you raise the wages of the labourers it comes to a question of amount of pay as between the labourers and men to be used exclusively as police.

782. Mr. *Childers.*] Have you considered the question of the police force with reference to the necessity of superintendence; that is, how much it is per head with reference to the number of inhabitants?—No; it must vary so much according to local circumstances. I may observe, that applications have been made to the commissioners of police from various parts of the country, for men to act as constables in rural districts; and a very few men, even one man for a parish of considerable size, has been found so efficient, that the adjoining parishes have combined to have men in the same way; and we have had several letters speaking in the highest terms of their usefulness.

783. Looking at the efficiency of the police in an agricultural district, with one man in a parish, have you ever considered whether that bears any proportion to the number of men required in a closely populated town, and in what proportion?—I am unable to say now, but I could refer to letters which would enable me to say. The nature of parishes differ very much; if they are in the neighbourhood of a large town, there is more difficulty than in wholly rural places.

784. Can you say what you consider generally in a large town, such as London or Manchester, is the proportion per population?—Even in towns it varies; it is impossible to say without reference to localities. By reference to the map by which this metropolis is divided, it would be at once apparent how greatly it differs, in consequence of many local and temporary circumstances. In the day-time, in Grosvenor-square, for instance, police are comparatively but little wanted to what they are in Oxford-street and St. Giles's.

785. Do you know the proportion the policemen bear to the whole population?—There are 3,400 police, and nearly 1,600,000 people; the police I mention are both for day and night; the whole number is never on duty at one time; about two-thirds are on duty at night.

786. *Chairman.*] On a general principle, does not the necessity for the number of police increase with the density of the population?—Yes, generally, but depending also on other circumstances.

787. The converse of that is equally true, is it not, that in proportion as the ratio

ratio of the population increases the proportion of the police constables would be less?—Yes, but still varying according to the character of the population.

788. Mr. *Fleming.*] Does your 3,400 include the City police?—No; the City population is only 120,000; I think there are about 1,600,000 within the metropolitan police limits, which extend to a certain degree round town.

789. Mr. *Childers.*] What number is there at Manchester?—I do not know.

790. Do you know any place where you think the police establishment is as good, in your opinion, as in the Metropolis; and do you know their numbers and relative proportions?—New establishments of police are now forming at different places, but I am not aware of the proportions.

791. Your own impression would be, that in Manchester an equal number of police could attend to a larger population than in London?—Certainly.

792. And so it is in general, according to the size of the towns?—Yes; the character of the inhabitants being the same, the greater the numbers the greater is the proportion required.

793. You would imagine, probably, in a merely rural district, one man would be able to look after many thousands instead of hundreds?—Certainly.

794. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] In the centre of how many miles would he be standing?—He cannot visit all parts of the district, nor exercise so great a control over them as in towns, but in country places that would not be necessary.

795. But that does away with your idea of the efficiency of anything like a road police, because you only mean him to be in the centre of a village or a knot of villages?—No; I spoke of what I knew had been done in establishing an efficient police in country places of considerable extent, with only a very few men in comparison with what would be necessary for the same extent of town.

796. Mr. *Childers.*] Do you think that if an efficient rural police were appointed, there would be any necessity for an additional police on the high roads?—I think they might be still useful occasionally, as an addition; but if there were a good police in each village or town and the immediate neighbourhood, I think there would be very little occasion for the police merely on the road, for it would then be with a view more to prevent the commission of crime actually upon the road, such as highway robbery or assaults, which very rarely occur in the present state of the country.

797. Supposing an efficient rural police to be established, do you imagine that the appointment of some of the road-men as constables would be equivalent to the expense of so doing, putting aside at this time the idea of their acting as a patrol?—I am not aware of what the increased expense would be, but I say their services might be of value, and probably would be; but how much the increase of the expense would be, by having them as policemen as well as road-men, I am not able to say.

798. On the whole, you think the loss to the road would not be equivalent to the gain from the police by night?—Looking at the man merely as a constable to be called on as any sudden occasions occur on the road, he would be useful, being always on the spot; but viewing him as a policeman, to prevent crime, and pursue criminals when crime is committed, there would be found great practical difficulty in combining the two characters.

799. As to this one policeman among 5,000 people, where do you suppose him to be; where is he to place himself by day or by night?—I could not state any given point; it will vary very much according to circumstances, particular local circumstances. I could mention cases in illustration that have occurred, where a single man has been sent down to a rural district, and has been found very useful over such a considerable district that it might be thought he could hardly produce any effect; but we find by controlling beer-shops, and watching the bad characters (for the good do not require to be observed), very great effect has been produced on a large number of people over a very extended district.

800. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] You do not consider that watching on a road is of primary importance?—As far as I can give a general opinion, I should say not in the present state of things.

801. You would have him look out at various points, and watching on the highway is of small importance compared with an ambulatory constable, in respect of their morals?—I should say so.

802. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] But an assistant constable would be of considerable use?—Yes, there would be use in having a man's attention directed to suspicious persons going along the road.

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803. Mr. *Childers.*] Taking the average of turnpike roads, how often on each road, and at what distances, would a constable of this sort be useful; once in how many miles, would you say?—On many roads he need not appear at all at night.

804. The question does not refer to night; but taking the average of turnpike roads in the country as 20 miles long, how many men would be necessary in 20 miles, without reference to the neighbourhoods of great towns, speaking of that sort of assistant constable to whom the police officer could refer, asking him, "have you seen any body pass?" how often should you say a policeman should meet this sort of person to whom he might put that question?—I should say, probably eight or ten miles; generally speaking, any person going along a road would be seen by a man placed within eight or ten miles, and a great deal of useful information would be collected by persons of intelligence, whose duty it was to look out; also, having a fewer number employed in two capacities, there would be less danger of interference with their ordinary work.

805. Mr. *Fleming.*] May it be gathered from your evidence, that you think if this establishment were to be confined entirely to the road in order to be useful, it would hardly be worth the expense?—I have a general opinion, that crimes committed on high roads merely, except perhaps in the immediate neighbourhood of towns, are very few, and the information to be got from parties travelling along a road is also comparatively of small value.

806. Therefore you think these officers, to be extensively useful, should be liable to be called off the roads in all parts of the country, where crime is liable to be committed?—Yes; there is great difficulty in severing the general duties of a constable from those that are merely to be performed on a road.

Sir *Robert William Newman*, Bart., of Mamhead, Devon, called in; and Examined.

Sir *R. W. Newman*, Bart.

807. *Chairman.*] WERE you Member of a Committee in 1819, which sat for the improvement of highways in the kingdom?—I was a member of that Committee.

808. You gave evidence on that Committee?—I did.

809. Have you turned your attention to the eligibility of substituting some other revenue for the roads than that collected by tolls?—I have long considered that some other mode ought to be adopted, by which a great saving would arise to the public, and the collection might be easily made in the same manner as the assessed taxes are now collected. It seems to me, that instead of being at the enormous expense in collecting tolls as now collected, a tax might be imposed on horses and carriages. I should certainly prefer that to any other mode; it is right to place the tax on those who more immediately benefit by good roads. If the tax were placed on houses, though they indirectly are benefited by roads, yet I think that mode of imposing the tax would not give satisfaction; but I do not see that any one could complain of paying a tax on his horse or his carriage, when with little difficulty he would find at the end of the year that he had paid less in the manner proposed than by paying at the turnpike-gates, with frequent interruptions and delay.

810. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] The tax you would extend to carriages of all sorts; carriages and carts and waggons of every proprietor should pay a slight tax?—Certainly; I should not recommend any exemption whatever.

811. *Chairman.*] Have you considered the expense incurred, or rather the loss incurred, by the public, in the difference between the amount paid by the public in tolls, and the amount which comes into the pockets of the trust?—I consider that the trusts receive considerably less, on account of the great expense in collecting the tolls; the collectors of the tolls must be maintained, and the expense of building and keeping in repair the tollhouses are very heavy; charges which might be wholly avoided.

812. Lord Viscount *Clive.*] Can you form any idea of what the per-centage is of the loss in the amount?—I am not prepared to answer that question, more particularly as the tolls are often farmed, and it is most difficult in many cases to ascertain the amount collected by the persons who have become the contractors.

813. *Chairman.*] Your impression is that the loss is considerable?—I believe that the public pays infinitely more than is received by the treasurers of the trusts.

814. Have

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814. Have you any knowledge that in abolishing tolls, such a measure would be beneficial to the landed interest?—I consider it would be beneficial to the landed and every other interest.

815. Mr. *Childers.*] The great difficulty is the method of raising the tax; your idea of putting it on horses, carriages and waggons, is that of raising it by an assessed tax?—The tax should be put upon horses and carriages, and collected in the same manner as you collect the assessed taxes.

816. Practically, it would become one of the assessed taxes?—It would be a road tax, and should be collected by the same person as collects the assessed taxes, who should give a separate receipt for such tax.

817. Would there not be a great difficulty in this respect, that few farmers pay any assessed taxes at present, and as we all know the great unwillingness persons have to pay a direct tax, that as the farmer is not now charged anything for horse duty, he would then have to pay a tax for farming horses, waggons, carts, &c. &c.?—True it is that farmers pay little towards the assessed taxes; therefore, if a tax were imposed on their horses and carriages they might justly complain, provided that they did not receive an adequate relief; but if, on putting the tax on their horses aed carriages, you removed the tolls at turnpike gates, and relieved them from all other road charges, I cannot see there would be any just cause for complaint. The honourable Member anticipates the objection of farmers to a direct tax: it should be remembered that they now pay the tolls, which would cease, and I think there would be no difficulty in making a commutation so as to protect the farmers; for I am well aware, that in fixing the tax it must be graduated, and that due protection must be afforded to the agricultural interest.

818. Mr. *Fleming.*] Would you not consider it a preferable mode of collecting such a tax, that it should be charged or collected as the parish or county rate, as a sort of turnpike rate, and paid over to the treasurer of the consolidated trusts, or the commissioners of those consolidated trusts, rather than it should be collected with the other assessed taxes?—It might be done in either way.

819. *Chairman.*] You have no objection to the plan proposed by the honourable Member, but you are not prepared with a precise answer?—I am not.

820. You are decidedly therefore of opnion, that the doing away with the tolls and substituting other means, would be desirable?—Most certainly.

821. Have you at all turned your attention to the advantage of consolidating the trusts, both the management and the funds?—Having been for so many years an acting trustee of roads, I have formed some opinion on that subject. I have seen much inconvenience arise from small trusts; they operate very much against the interests of the community. A consolidation is a very great advantage, provided that the commissioners and their officers carrying on that trust, do it efficiently; but it is a question of great importance and extent, for it includes a variety of matter. No one was more anxious than I was, that Parliament should effect the consolidation of the turnpikes around London; I was one of the first who promoted the measure in the House of Commons, then having a seat in Parliament. I considered the consolidation would be highly beneficial, and experience has proved it. I attribute the success of this consolidation of the metropolitan trusts to the efficient manner in which the business has been carried on by experienced, unprejudiced and impartial commissioners, assisted by very competent officers. The same result I should not expect if a large consolidated trust were placed under the usual system of turnpike trusts, composed as they are of numerous irresponsible trustees, many of whom confine their views to their immediate neighbourhoods, without considering the general interests of the public.

822. Do you think, on the system of consolidation of trusts, which in your opinion is desirable, it would be eligible to have a Board in London, whose authority should supersede that of the country gentlemen?—I have long been of opinion that a Board should be established to superintend the business of the different trusts, both in the financial, and management of the roads.

823. Both as to superintending the funds and the management?—Both, certainly.

824. Have you at all turned your attention to the formation of highway or rural police?—Never.

825. You are not prepared to say anything as to that?—I am not prepared to give any opinion respecting the appointment of a rural police.

826. Is it your wish to give to the Committee any further information?—

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I came here so little prepared that I do not know that I have any further information to offer.

827. Lord Viscount *Clive*.] Be so good as to inform the Committee if you have been concerned in any material improvements that have taken place in the roads in Devonshire?—I have been concerned in various and extensive improvements, both in roads and bridges, in which the outlay has been very considerable. I was among the first who undertook the subject of roads in Devonshire, it being a county more neglected on the subject of roads than any other at that time; I am speaking of 20 years since. In the commencement much persuasion was used to overcome the strong prejudice which existed on the subject, on account of the expense; it was with difficulty that persons were induced to undertake the arduous task of improving the roads in Devonshire, where the large sums which have been expended have met with a due return. I exerted myself as a trustee in several trusts, and I believe it is admitted, that with the assistance of my friends, that we have succeeded as well as it could be expected in a county which offers more difficulty than many others, from the roads being very narrow and the lands very valuable; besides which, we had to contend with much prejudice on the part of the landed interest. The people are now become reconciled, and are as happy to acknowledge the advantages as in any other part of the country. The first proposition I made was in the presence of nearly 40 country gentlemen, and on making that proposal, I was asked what I considered would be the expense of this scheme that I offered. When I told them I thought it would amount to 10,000*l.* they were perfectly astonished, and assured me that the trust was in a state of bankruptcy, and did not pay more than 2 or 2½ per cent. interest; they could not afford to pay more than that, and consequently that it was absurd to expect that 10,000*l.* could be raised. My answer was, improve your system, and I will venture to predict that it will not be long before you will pay five per cent. on your old debt, and five per cent. on the amount now proposed to be raised. It took some time to persuade these trustees that anything of that kind could be effected: they subsequently borrowed 10,000*l.*, and they have since borrowed at least 10,000*l.* more, and they have long paid five per cent. on the old debt, and five per cent. on the new debt, and no complaint has been made by any party of the tolls having been risen; in fact, the tolls scarcely have been raised; it has been effected by better arrangement.

828. In proportion as you have laid out a large sum of money, the convenience to the public in travelling has been such, that you have received in return for the outlay ample interest for the money expended?—The income of the trust gradually increased, and enabled the trustees to pay five per cent. on their debt, both old and new. It may be satisfactory to this Committee to hear what trust I am speaking of; I am speaking of the Totnes and Newton trust.

829. Mr. *Childers*.] You do not see any difficulty, in case the toll-bars are done away with, in raising money for improvements?—On the contrary, I should hope it would increase the facility for raising money. It must be understood, if a plan of that kind were adopted, there are a variety of things which at present I could not enter into; it would be necessary, of course, to protect the collection of the tax; it must be put in such a way that it could not be evaded. Your calculations would properly be made to meet the interest and repairs of roads; and so far from doing away the credit, I should think it would tend to raise it very considerably.

830. What would your idea be in raising this revenue; would it be to raise it all in one tax, which would go to a central board, and thence come back again to different counties?—I will explain. As far as my experience goes, the roads of the country never will be perfect till they are under the direction of a central board, that board being assisted by local boards. I have long been of opinion, that notwithstanding what we see abroad, that the Government ought to be made responsible by the appointment of a board in London, which board should be assisted by local boards, the members of which should be selected by the magistrates of the county, who should appoint a limited number of persons from each hundred, which would give an opportunity to the gentry in the country to make representations through those local boards, and the Government would be required to assist in the formation of lines of road, by employing military engineers who are now paid by the Government. The skill of our engineers is much wanted, for roads are often cut in wrong directions, without judgment, and badly executed.

831. *Chairman*.] Why not confine the power of a board in London to the superintendence of the funds, and let the executive management remain with the

the country gentlemen?—Because, as far as my experience has enabled me to form an opinion, I think that a responsible board in London, assisted by military engineers and practical surveyors, would be best enabled to promote the general welfare of the country, by superintending and directing the local boards. The London commissioners would act unfettered by local circumstances, and I do not hesitate to believe, that under such a system, the roads throughout the kingdom would be much improved, and with less expense to the public, and the removal of turnpike gates would be a most desirable circumstance.

832. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Do you think if a central board had been established, such as you speak of, previously to having induced the trustees to borrow that 10,000 *l.*, you would ever have got that 10,000 *l.* on a bankrupt trust from Government?—My opinion is, that if a central board did its duty, it would employ its officers to examine into the capabilities of every trust in the kingdom. I think it would have been their duty to have sent a proper officer to examine into the state and the traffic of that part of the country, and if they found the traffic required it (which was the case in the Totnes trust), they would supply that traffic with the necessary accommodation.

833. Then are the Committee to understand your reply to the question to be, that you think they would have lent the 10,000 *l.* on the bankrupt trust?—I think that under the circumstances of that trust they might not have advanced the whole sum at once; but they would have gradually advanced, as they found the traffic increased, and the cost of the improvements justified their expending a larger sum.

834. Mr. *Childers.*] Supposing these sums to be collected and paid all into the Treasury, and to go out from thence, do you not apprehend that there must be some difficulty, from the jealousies of one part of the country paying a great deal, and perhaps, from the state of the roads, receiving very little?—I think in the commencement that those jealousies would probably arise; but I am looking to the ultimate benefit to the country at large. I am convinced that every part of the community would benefit, but some parts would benefit more than others. It would be most difficult to equalise an arrangement of that kind; but I think that the jealousy would be removed if the respective counties were credited by the central board for the amount levied on them under the denomination of a road-tax, and that the amount so raised should be expended within, and limited to the improvements and repairs of the roads of the counties where the amount of the tax had been collected.

835. Lord Viscount *Clive.*] Your observation, in some instances, applies to cases of mismanagement of trusts; but as it affects your own particular management of your trust, would the necessity of reference to the board of London be of advantage; or would it retard the improvements that are carried on under your direction, or under the direction of the trustees with whom you acted?—Not merely under my directions, but of those who acted with me. I must confess that I think we should not have advanced so rapidly, because we were very zealous in our endeavours to improve the state of our roads, seeing the disadvantages of our very bad communications throughout Devonshire. Generally speaking, I do not think that a board would retard improvements; on the contrary, I am of opinion that their influence would very materially remove the impediments to improvements which under the present system are continually occurring.

836. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] The Committee have it in evidence before them, that new lines of road for many miles have been made by the contributions of gentlemen over whose property they run; do you think gentlemen would be inclined to do that if there were a central board?—Certainly not.

837. Then those lines never would have been made?—I cannot say whether such roads would or would not have been made; I presume they would have been made if the parties desirous of their being made could prove to the central board that they were required by the public traffic; the new roads in Devon were required by the public, and were executed at the public expense. If the roads alluded to by the honourable Member were for the particular convenience of certain gentlemen, it was quite right that they should be made by their own subscriptions, and not at the public cost.

838. Mr. *Childers.*] Do not you think the commissioners would find themselves placed in a difficulty as to whether they should make new lines of road, and that the obloquy that might in some cases arise from what occasionally must occur, namely, a deficiency of judgment, would be such as almost to prevent persons undertaking the situation of commissioners?—I consider that the central

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central board in London should consist of paid commissioners, who would be bound to do their duty without reference to their own feelings.

839. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Do you consider that the gentlemen of the neighbourhood would be so willing to act as trustees of roads in their neighbourhood, when they were to be under the control of a central board they knew nothing about?—I can suppose that country gentlemen at first would not be over pleased with the plan, as I found they were not over pleased at first with the new poor law. Many of the magistrates considered that that alteration deprived them of a great deal of proper control, and the same objection would arise if you made any alteration in the superintendence of roads; but when they witnessed the great benefit to the country, they would be reconciled to the change.

840. Then how would you supply the place of your trustees, were these gentlemen to refuse to act?—I consider that the local business would be totally changed; you would have much fewer persons, but those persons would be more responsible, and much more efficient. At present the management of the roads in the country falls on persons who are quite irresponsible, and often are not aware of the importance which is attached to the duties they are required to perform. That, I think, is the great objection to the present management in the country; a very important office is left to be transacted by persons of various descriptions, many of whom are ill qualified to act as trustees of turnpike roads.

841. But the gentlemen in the neighbourhood act; though a great number are named in the Act of Parliament, it is only the gentlemen in the neighbourhood undertake the business?—My own experience has shown me, that few are named as trustees in any Road Act who are not ready to vote upon any question in which they feel an interest.

Mr. *Thomas Penson*, Surveyor of the Montgomeryshire Roads, called in; and further Examined.

Mr *Thomas Penson.*

842. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] WHAT, in your opinion, would be the effect of collecting a tax in the nature of a county rate, in lieu of tolls?—I am satisfied it would be a tax that would be very unpopular, and it would fall on a description of persons who are not always those who make most use of the road.

843. *Chairman.*] Would you advise the substitution of any other mode of collecting the road revenue than that of tolls?—If the toll could be abandoned I am satisfied it would be a great convenience; but I do not consider myself in a situation to propose any substitute in lieu of tolls.

844. Do you mean it would be only a convenience, or also a saving of expense?—There would be a saving in the expense, to the amount of the difference between that which is at present expended in the collection of the tolls as now raised, and that which it would cost to collect a tax in lieu of it. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the nature of taxes to form any estimate of what that difference might be, as it must in a great measure depend on the nature of the tax.

845. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] What is the average per-centage in the collection of tolls at the present moment, in your district?—I stated in my examination before, that throughout the district where I was concerned, I am of opinion the expense of collecting the tolls does not exceed 10 per cent.; that is, that the difference between the amount collected and the amount paid into the treasury is 9 *l.* out of every 10 *l.*, exclusive of the turnpike-house.

846. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] What does that come to?—I should think the value of a turnpike-house would be about 3 *l.* on an average.

847. Have you had an opportunity of hearing the opinions of others on the subject of substituting a tax for a toll?—In the nature of a county rate, I have.

848. What have you collected from them?—That it would be an objectionable tax, if it was collected in the nature of a county rate; that it would entirely fall on the landed interest, and that the casual traveller would not pay anything.

849. *Chairman.*] You have stated that in your opinion the expense of collecting the toll is only a certain amount; state your grounds for forming your opinion that it is to that amount?—It has been formed on a calculation of what I have every reason to suppose is the positive cost at which every gate in those districts for which I am concerned a person would undertake to collect the toll for.

850. Does that include the estimate of the profits made by the lessees?—I calculate that the toll generally will be collected at from five to seven per cent.

851. You mean the expense of collecting?—Yes.

852. What is the profit of the lessees, on an average?—From what I have been able to judge, but it is totally out of my power to ascertain exactly the fact, I should imagine from 2 ½ to 3 per cent.

853. How much do you receive for turnpike tolls, and how many toll-gates have you got?—We have from 12 to 20 toll-gates in each district.

854. Take one district?—There are 23 gates in the first district, the rent received for a year was 3,307 *l.*; and the calculation that I have made of what these gates have been paying to the receiver, has been 190 *l.* 8 *s.*

855. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] What is it upon an average?—That has been the cost of receiving; the cost of collecting the toll; the whole expense. There are several gates for which the parties will collect the toll for 1 *s.* per week and the house; some do not bring in more than 40 *l.* a year; many collect the toll for 1 *s.* a week and the house.

856. Do you mean that the men sit up night and day all the year?—Probably they will not be called up in the night once in a month.

857. What do you calculate the expense at?—I am quite in a situation to furnish the Committee with the particulars of my calculation. Whenever any of these gates fall into the hands of the trustees, which has occasionally occurred, and from my knowledge of the men who principally are employed on the roads (and I think occasionally I should find them tripping if they had told me what was incorrect), I am of opinion the information I have here is pretty nearly the fact; I am satisfied there is no gate in the whole of that district but what the parties will be very thankful to receive 8 *s.* a week to receive the tolls at, exclusive of the house to live in. I will read you the estimate of the expense of each gate; and I can give you the rents of each, as well.—[*Paper put in.*]

First District.

——	RENT.			Probable Cost of Collecting.			Number of Gates in the Lot.	Cost per Week.	
1834--1835.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.		s.	d.
1	356	–	–	21	4	–	1	8	–
2	404	–	–	21	4	–	1	8	–
3	232	–	–	13	5	–	1	5	–
4	140	–	–	7	19	–	1	3	–
5	121	–	–	7	19	–	1	3	–
6	100	–	–	7	19	–	1	3	–
7	150	–	–	10	12	–	1	4	–
8	105	–	–	6	12	6	1	2	6
9	240	–	–	10	12	–	1	4	–
10	92	–	–	6	12	6	1	2	6
11	130	–	–	8	16	8	1	3	4
12	160	–	–	8	16	8	1	3	4
13	96	–	–	6	12	6	1	2	6
14	61	–	–	3	19	6	1	1	6
15	41	–	–	2	13	–	1	1	–
16	42	–	–	2	13	–	1	1	–
17	68	–	–	2	13	–	1	1	–
18	94	–	–	6	12	6	1	2	6
19	162	–	–	6	12	6	1	2	6
20	95	–	–	6	12	6	1	2	6
21	67	–	–	6	12	6	2	2	6
22	320	–	–	21	4	–	1	8	–
23	31	–	–	2	13	–	1	1	–
	3,307	–	–	190	8	4			
Value of 24 houses at 3 *l.* each per annum				72	–	–			
			£.	262	8	4			

Mr. *Thomas Penson.*

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Second *Montgomeryshire* District.

——	RENT.	Cost of Collection.	Number of Gates.	Cost per Week.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		s. d.
1	391 – –	21 4 –	2	8 –
2	720 – –	31 14 –	2 and a bar.	11 –
3	475 – –	26 10 –	2	10 –
4	25 – –	2 13 –	1	1 –
5	265 – –	26 10 –	2 and 2 bars.	10 –
6	225 – –	13 5 –	1	5 –
7	180 – –	15 18 –	2	6 –
8	30 – –	5 6 –	1 and 1 bar.	2 –
9	40 – –	2 13 –	1	1 –
10	411 – –	37 2 –	4 and 1 bar.	14 –
11	106 – –	7 19 –	2	3 –
	2,868 – –	190 14 –		
Twenty-four houses at 3*l.*		72 – –		
	£.	262 14 –		

Third *Montgomeryshire* District.

——	RENT.	Probable Cost of Collecting.	Number of Gates in Lot.	Cost per Week.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		s. d.
1	276 – –	15 18 –	2	6 –
2	395 – –	23 17 –	2	9 –
3	650 – –	26 10 –	1	10 –
4	190 – –	10 12 –	1	4 –
5	101 – –	5 6 –	1	2 –
6	18 – –	2 13 –	1	1 –
7	12 – –	2 13 –	1	1 –
8	32 – –	2 13 –	1	1 –
9	123 – –	10 12 –	2	4 –
10	13 – –	2 13 –	1	1 –
11	21 – –	2 13 –	1	1 –
12	15 – –	2 13 –	1	1 –
13	36 – –	3 19 6	1 and 1 bar.	1 6
	2,182 – –	112 12 6		
Sixteen houses at 3*l.*		48 – –		
	£.	160 12 6		

Oswestry Trust.

	RENT.	Cost of Collecting.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
	3,028 – –	185 6 –
Twenty houses at 3*l.*		60 – –
	£.	245 6 –

Martis, 17° *die Maii*, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Sir Henry Parnell.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	Mr. Childers.
Lord Viscount Clive.	Lord Viscount Lowther.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Cooper*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *Cooper*.

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858. Lord *Clive*.] ARE you a member of the medical profession?—Yes.

859. Have you seen Mr. Penson this morning?—Yes.

860. Is the state of his health such as to disqualify him from attending before the Committee?—Certainly, at the time I saw him; he may be better in the course of an hour or two, and if he is he will come down this afternoon, but I fear not. I shall see him again when I go home, to say I have been and delivered his note. He said he thought you might perchance read over the answers, and if he found himself well enough before you broke up he would come down; but I am afraid he will not find himself well enough.

861. When do you think he can come with safety?—He might attend to-morrow, but it would be safer to say Friday.

Mr. *Alexander Gordon*, called in; and further Examined.

Mr. *Alexander Gordon*.

862. *Chairman*.] YOU have been examined before on this Committee; can you state anything in explanation of those accounts which you gave in?—After I left the Committee I went to Mr. Johnson's yard at Westminster, and saw his brother and partner; Mr. Johnson himself is absent from town. The brother recollected the figures which I had used in that calculation having been used by Mr. Johnson in evidence, and says it is correct. His brother being out of town, he could not be present to give his evidence, but if the Committee think it proper they may still have Mr. Johnson to give the figures accurately. I called upon Sir Henry Parnell, from whose book I first obtained the expenses of London pavement, and Sir Henry Parnell said he had copied that memorandum from he did not know where; he believed it was a private Bill for the improvement of Westminster. Mr. Johnson considers that I shall find it in the House of Commons' library; there is some difficulty in finding it. I am not able to give any further corroboration of the accuracy of those figures, and if the Committee choose it can be struck out.

863. Have you anything else you wish to state?—Only to say that the first cost and annual maintenance therein I am not prepared to substantiate. The tractive power is what I have myself made careful experiments upon.

864. Do you mean the tractive power required for moving a ton on the different roads; the horse draft?—Yes.

865. Lord *Lowther*.] I should like to know whether you make it from actual experiment, or whether it is deductions from calculation?—Actual experiment and observation, with regard to the tractive power.

866. Have you loaded a cart upon a granite road and pavement, so as to see what a horse can do on each?—I will give the Committee one instance: On examining a road, a specimen of which has been produced before the Committee, made of bitumen surface, with weights varying from five cwt. to five tons, I took a truck laden until the whole weighed one ton; I then led a line from the truck across a pulley, and attached a weight to it; the small weight attached expressed the tractive power necessary in moving the larger weight on wheels.

867. *Chairman*.] How did you get a fall for your weight?—Raised it on triangles to a considerable height.

868. Colonel *Rushbrooke*.] And kept it level?—No; I took a section of the road afterwards, and by the usual formula made the corrections for the ascents and descents, so as to ascertain that it was on a level. The weight required for moving one ton on this level road surface was 15 lbs. On an edge railway, where I tried

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I tried the same experiment, I found that one ton requires 10 lbs., being two-thirds of the former power.

869. What will be the power required on a pavement in its best state?—Thirty-three lbs. will move a ton.

870. Lord *Lowther.*] Which requires the greatest force; pavement, or upon a macadamized road?—On a pavement much less tractive power is required than on any other road excepting a railway, or Mr. Cassell's road, or such as is made in the Commercial-road.

871. Did you ever try by actual experiment, by cart and horse loaded with stone, which would carry the most?—Never by horses, for the purpose of experiment.

872. But you think the horse would carry more on a pavement?—Yes, than on some other roads.

873. Which do you think he would draw most upon?—We must then take into account the comfort of the horse; the pavement is not so good for the horse's feet. The power upon the traces will be less upon London pavement than upon any broken-stone road.

874. Which could the horse draw the most upon, upon a pavement, or Macadam road?—Upon a pavement, if good.

Mr. *J. H. Cassell*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. H. Cassell.*

875. *Chairman.*] WHAT is the greatest length of time you have seen this road of yours at work?—I have tried experiments for eight years on my own premises.

876. Is it in the same state it was when you put it down?—For about six years, and then we had occasion to lay down pipes.

877. Assuming that the road was formed in Oxford-street opposite Cumberland-gate, from the best of your information how long would that road last with that traffic?—I laid a piece down at Kennington, and it was down 13 months without any repairing, and it underwent a most severe trial, for they were not friendly to it, and they placed on each side large lumps of granite about every fortnight or three weeks; they were carried over with the horse, and ground to powder upon my road; and by that means, after being 12 months down, I went and examined it, and I found that where the horses made their entrance, there was a semicircle about three feet from the edge, and it was worn away about half an inch at the edge where the horses principally went.

878. On the high road to Brighton?—Yes.

879. How long did it last?—Thirteen months.

880. If a road was put down opposite Cumberland-gate, with the vast traffic that comes into town in that direction, how long would you contract that it should last without requiring any repair?—I would beg leave to explain: I call that a perfect road (*pointing to the specimen on the table*). The only thing which does me injury is, when there are gravel stones going on my road, and being ground to powder with the wheels; the horses' feet do it no harm, neither does the wheel. If I have a road which is only partially done, say 18 feet in the centre, then the stones continually get on each side; if I have a road like that, five miles out of London, three inches in the centre and an inch on each side, a mile long, would last three years without any repairing, except where I joined it to the stone road; that would perhaps want repairing once in 12 months, for about three or four feet in.

881. In that case, would it not be desirable to put on each side of this your road before it comes to the stone road?—Very desirable.

882. And if you pave with large curbs, according to Mr. Telford's plan, you would then be able to prevent that?—Yes.

883. Col. *Rushbrooke.*] Suppose the whole width to be this piece of paper, and your road is only laid of this width, you would have the same mischief on the side, would you not?—It would not be quite so bad, because this being in the centre, the stones would not naturally run up hill; it is not so bad as where you come on a level; there would be a few stones kicked on it. Another thing is, unless the road is run all over, you cannot prevent the water going to the substratum. This curb-stone is put on before this road is cast, and this road is cast on it; after that is done, this is put on for the foot-passengers (*describing it on the model produced.*)

884. This is of the same material, only finer (*referring to the path*)?—The drains

drains would be carried through the whole of this road; underneath would be completely water-tight. Mr. J. H. Cassell. 17 May 1836.

885. Would there not be some difficulty in making use of this in London, in consequence of its being necessary occasionally to take up the road for pipes?—In that case we make a slight groove and put in slighter materials, and we put in a hot sliver and take it up; then we can put it down again and make our joints good. One grand advantage in this road over all other roads is, the horses in other roads are obliged to make the road themselves; here the road is made for them. Whenever you have been travelling where do your traces break? Going through new roads.

886. According to your present calculation, your road would cost 2,904 *l.* a mile, at 11 yards wide?—Yes, in London, and the annual repair would be about 122 *l.*; in the country half the quantity would be required, and therefore half the expense, and the repair would be 24 *l.* a year.

887. *Chairman.*] Suppose you do put two squares even with each other, can you, if one square is not on the same plane as the other, can you fill it up?—Yes.

888. Without picking up the road?—Yes.

889. Merely by pouring hot stuff on the top?—Yes.

890. I understand you to say you could keep it in repair for any number of years?—Out of London.

891. When did you take out your patent?—June 1834.

892. Would not your cement be still stronger, if instead of having that broken gravel you had the same sort of composition of which they make Roman cement, which I believe to be nothing but ground small flint, which is to be found in water-courses?—The Roman cement is made from a particular stone that comes from Harwich and the Isle of Sheppy.

893. There is some sort of spurious Roman cement that masons use in the country, which is made of the smallest possible gravel in the water-courses, and ground to very fine powder?—By a little alteration of our process we can use almost any material.

894. Is it fine gravel or sand?—This specimen is actually made of road scrapings.

895. Assuming that instead of having the road scrapings, you put that fine ground substance in the water-course I particularly described, would not that make it still more tenacious?—It requires a combination of substances.

896. These substances being ground, seem to dovetail and combine with each other?—I have tried various substances, but the bitumen is the principal thing. I do not know but brickdust would do nearly as well.

897. Lord *Lowther.*] Is the pitch and tar distilled?—Yes, in different consistencies, under different heats.

Veneris, 20° die Maii, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Mr. Roche.
Sir Henry Parnell.	Colonel Rushbrooke.
Lord Viscount Clive.	Mr. Childers.
Mr. Fleming.	

WILLIAM ALEXANDER MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *John Provis*, Clerk and Surveyor of the Shrewsbury and Holyhead Road, called in; and Examined.

898. Sir *H. Parnell.*] WHAT situation did you fill before you were appointed to that office?—I was employed upon the improvement of the Holyhead road, and also in proving the iron-work of the Menai Bridge, under Mr. Telford. Mr. *John Provis.* 20 May 1836.

899. For how many years were you under Mr. Telford?—Fourteen years.

900. You have received a regular education as a civil engineer?—Yes.

 901. I believe

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901. I believe you inspected several of the large contracts, under Mr. Telford, for making the Holyhead road?—Several of them.

902. Will you describe to the Committee the process of making a road under a contract, namely, the sort of contract and specification, drawings and inspecting, when a new piece of road is to be made; what course did Mr. Telford take?—After the survey had been made and decided upon, the first operation was that of forming the road; after that, of setting on it a pavement of 16 feet in width, and averaging six inches in thickness, that is seven inches in the middle and five inches on the sides; and upon that six inches in depth of broken stones, with a slight covering of fine gravel, to prevent the horses' feet being injured.

903. What was the width of that road?—Thirty-two feet.

904. What were the fences?—Stone walls, four feet six inches in height including a coping on the top.

905. Was this mode of making the road described in the contract?—It was.

906. How?—It was described in the contract by drawings and a specification pointing to each particular, and the manner in which each separate work was to be performed.

907. And how was the work superintended, so as to secure the performance of the contract strictly according to the agreement?—As soon as the contract was made there was an inspector appointed to superintend the work.

908. And what did he do?—He had to examine it daily, or as often as it was necessary; and then, if he found anything wrong, it was his duty to point it out to the general surveyor or engineer.

909. Did you act as inspector in any contract?—Yes, I did, to several contracts.

910. So that you were always enabled to see whether the contractor had faithfully performed what he had agreed to do?—I did; I saw it properly formed before the pavement was put on, and I also saw the paving before the broken stones were laid on.

911. Was there any particular regularity about the pavement, about the size of the stones?—There was; that none of them should exceed four inches in its upper surface.

912. In breadth?—In breadth.

913. What length?—Generally about eight or nine inches in length.

914. How were they set?—All set by hand, with the broadest edge downwards.

915. What class of workmen were employed in setting the pavement?—Labourers who, from long practice, had been accustomed to it.

916. The upper part of the pavement, how was that managed?—The paving was laid by hand; the stones were laid as close as they could in parallel layers, and after that the interstices were filled up by small chippings, forced in by a hammer.

917. So that the whole mass became a solid compact body?—The whole mass became a solid body.

918. No stone could rise easily up?—No, it was almost impossible.

919. What sort of stones did he use?—A variety; it depended on the nature of the quarries.

920. Was it necessary to have it hard?—Wherever we could get it; it was not necessary to have the lower stratum so hard as the upper.

921. They must be so hard as not to decompose?—Yes, they must.

922. What size did you break the stones?—So that the greatest dimensions of the stones should pass through a ring two inches and a half in diameter.

923. Was this the practice on the Holyhead road?—It was.

924. Do you know when Mr. Telford first began in the Holyhead road?—It was in 1815, I believe.

925. What is the distance of what may be called the new road?—Eighty-seven miles.

926. From what point?—From Holyhead to Gobowen.

927. Is all the road either entirely newly made, or so changed as to be fairly called a new road?—The whole of it.

928. Is all of it paved?—The whole, with scarcely any exception.

929. Some part of the old road was widened only; were they new paved?—Almost all of them, I believe, through North Wales.

930. What is the breadth of the road?—Varying from 22 feet, where we have precipices or difficulties to overcome, to 32 feet.

931. The

931. The ordinary breadth is 32, accurately?—Yes.

932. What is the convexity?—Eight inches.

933. Was that quite accurate, so that it would prove to be eight inches by using a level when the road was finished?—Yes, we have templets of the shape of the road, but it is accurately ascertained as the materials are put down, the road being first levelled, and then measuring the depth of the pavement at the ends and the centre.

934. Then the road has not the appearance of a common road, sometimes high on one side and sometimes low on the other?—No.

935. It is altogether a construction, as it were, made on fixed rules, and according to the particular measures?—It is; and wherever in one part it is narrower than others, it is always brought so gradually, so as to produce no abruptness in the appearance of the fences.

936. Then when you do reduce the breadth to 22, or any smaller breadth than 32 feet, you continue that until you pass the ground which is difficult?—We do.

937. Is there a uniformity?—Always.

938. The fences, you say, are walls?—Stone walls.

939. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Your convexity is not the same when it is narrowed, only proportional?—Proportionally so.

940. Then your templet would be no use there, because it would be too high?—We principally use the spirit level.

941. The road being through a mountainous country, crosses a great many small rivulets and streams?—Yes.

942. In regard to drainage, is it perfectly well drained?—Perfectly well.

943. Do you find that is the case in very wet seasons, and upon sudden heavy falls of rain?—I have never yet found any difficulty in getting the water off; it is never any impediment to the travelling.

944. Does it ever injure the surface of the road, so as to carry away parts of it?—Not of any consequence.

945. Are these pipes and small culverts and bridges built in a very strong manner?—Yes, they are.

946. Were there particular pains taken to secure the foundation?—A great deal of care; in many instances they are upon a rock.

947. Were they paved under, so as to prevent the water cutting under the side walls?—All, except where upon a rock.

948. A regular rule?—A regular rule.

949. Now, in severe winters, after very long frosts and sudden thaws, does the surface break up?—I never saw an instance of it in any part that had been paved.

950. That is in such winters of such severity that in ordinary cases the roads generally break up more or less throughout the whole country?—Where other roads under my charge have broken up.

951. Then, in summer, does the surface loosen and show weakness?—No symptoms of weakness; occasionally after a long continued dry season it would show symptoms of looseness.

952. The stone will not rise so as to cover the surface?—No.

953. Did you ever find the pavement stone rise up?—Never.

954. Does the pavement serve in any degree as a drain to the road?—There is no doubt of it.

955. Have you a communication between the pavement and the drains of the road?—Generally speaking we have.

956. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] In what cases have you not?—We have not a continued communication, but we have loose materials of a similar sort to communicate with.

957. Sir *H. Parnell.*] You have a sufficient number to carry off any water that collects on the pavement?—Yes.

958. As there were stone walls, there could be no necessity for ditches?—No; there are ditches in some places, but they are of rare occurrence; we seldom require them, because the field-drains being sufficiently near, we try to communicate with them wherever we can; we always drain them to the lower side; the greater portion of the road is on hanging ground.

959. The water that collects at the upper part of the road is carried to cross drains?—Carried across by a drain below the road, and in most places, where we have hanging ground, the road is supported by a breast-wall, and the water merely passes over this breast-wall into the field.

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960. How do you prevent the water falling from the high ground into the road?—By leading it in channels into the cross drains.

961. There are drains in the upper part of the road that carry any water that falls from the upper land into the cross-drain, and keeps the water from the surface?—Yes.

962. In forming the road, in point of fact, is it not the case that the road is elevated, the surface of it, so as to be above, as it were, the immediate ground that touches it?—It is the case; we always prefer raising the road to depressing it.

963. That is, you always form the road so as to elevate the sub-soil of it on which the materials are put above the level of the adjoining field?—As much as we possibly can.

964. Which in itself is a protection from moisture and wet getting upon it?—Yes.

965. Is there a wall on each side of the road?—There is, for nearly the whole way, except where we cut through rock.

966. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Is that wall on the hill side somewhat bastion fashion, a little on a slope, so as to act as a buttress?—Not a buttress; but it is wider at the foundation than at the top.

967. Sir *H. Parnell.*] The form of the road, the convexity, in fact, produces a side channel towards the higher side in which all rain-water falls into the cross drain?—All surface-water runs in the channel on each side, close to the wall, until it gets to one of the cross drains.

968. So that the road is so formed when crossing a sloping ground that the water cannot rise from the side channel next the hill, to the middle of the road?—It cannot.

969. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*]—Through what does the water escape when it gets to the position of one of these drains; how does it find its way; what orifice is there at the surface?—We in general make them communicate with the field drain; and we have an opportunity of joining them to the field drains at very short distances.

970. How are the inlets to those drains protected from the silt choking them up?—Generally by masonry, or paving the mouths with large stones.

970.* Sir *H. Parnell.*] Is there much silt on the road?—In parts.

971. What sort of materials is the upper coating of; broken stone?—A good deal depends on the rock through which we pass; we always select the best.

972. Is it generally all through very hard?—It is of variable quality in that respect.

973. Have you much scraping?—Very little in some parts, in some parts none.

974. What makes the difference?—The hardness of the stone, and the difference of the traffic upon it.

975. Would you say the hardness of the stone made a great difference in the quantity of scraping?—No doubt.

976. Is not some part of the road so hard that it never requires scraping?—Yes.

977. And is not the stone much harder than elsewhere?—The stone is very good in that place, but that is not the only advantage; it has a good exposure to the wind.

978. What part of the road is it?—Lake Ogwen.

979. Where have you the most scraping to do?—Between Chirk and Gobowen.

980. What is the material used there?—Chiefly limestone.

981. Is there a heavy carriage?—Very.

982. What sort?—Principally of coal and lime.

983. What is the quality of the stone where the scraping is the least?—Basaltic.

984. What is the road across Anglesea; is that hard?—Yes.

985. Is the material hard there?—The best I have got on the road.

986. What is it between Corwen and Llangollen?—Principally schistus.

987. Cannot you get harder stone?—Not without bringing it from a considerable distance.

988. Is there much traffic there?—A good deal; of coal particularly.

989. Have you tried the newly invented scraping machine?—I have, for a short time.

990. How do you find it answer?—Remarkably well, as far as I could judge. I do not like to give a decisive opinion on it till I have tried it longer.

991. What is it, as far as you can form your opinion, in point of expense, with reference to the usual mode of scraping?—I think we shall be able to scrape at half the expense.

992. What does the machine cost?—Six guineas and a half.

993. Mr. *Fleming.*] One man will do the work of two?—Yes.

994. Sir *H. Parnell.*] What is the distance of the road from Shrewsbury to Holyhead, which is under the management of the commissioners?—There are 106 miles, besides three miles of branch road, that is 109 altogether.

995. This road was formerly, before 1819, under the management of separate trusts?—It was under the management of seven separate trusts.

996. By what Act was the consolidation effected?—The 59 Geo. 3, c. 30.

997. What is the plan of consolidation with regard to the trusts; how was that arranged?—By agreement between the commissioners and the various trustees.

998. The agreement had reference to the debts?—Yes.

999. And how were the debts settled?—A portion of the debts belonging to each of these seven trusts was placed upon the Shrewsbury and Holyhead road.

1000. Those trustees had other roads under their management, besides the main line of road?—Yes.

1001. What is the debt upon the road?—It is about 17,000*l.*

1002. Has the interest been regularly paid since 1819?—Regularly.

1003. Have the rates of toll on this road been much reduced of late?—Very considerably; perhaps I ought not to say of late, but soon after the Act of 1819 was passed, they were 1*s.* 3*d.* for each post-horse.

1004. At how many gates?—At seven gates, between Bangor and Llangollen; from that they were reduced to 1*s.* a horse, and from that to 9*d.*, which they are at present.

1005. And have the rates of toll upon stage-coaches been reduced?—Very materially.

1006. Distinct from post-horses?—Distinct from post-horses.

1007. As to the annual amount of tolls collected, what comparison does the state of the income this year and the last bear with reference to past years?—The lettings of tolls this year have exceeded anything I recollect since I have been on the road.

1008. How much are they beyond what they were last year?—£.670.

1009. Have the tolls of the Menai Bridge become increased this year?—Very much.

1010. How much?—£.300.

1011. What is the annual amount?—The present letting is 1,025*l.*

1012. From the time that you have been employed on roads, you are acquainted with roads that are not made with the regular pavement, are you?—Yes, I am.

1013. What, in your opinion, from your practice, would you say was the difference, with regard to the object of having a good road, between the system of the road made with a foundation of pavement, and one made by broken stones on a sub-soil, as regards the object of a good road generally?—Decidedly, I prefer a pavement.

1014. With regard to expense?—With regard to expense, I have no doubt it would be cheaper.

1015. Do you find the surface materials wear longer when they are laid upon a paved bottom than when they are laid on a sub-soil?—I have scarcely had an opportunity of judging as to the comparative difference.

1016. Upon your road you have no means of making that comparison?—I have not.

1017. *Chairman.*] I think you stated that a paved road is cheaper, and wears longer, and yet I think in a former part of your evidence, about a quarter of an hour ago, you said the breadth was 32 feet, and you have given to the middle 16 feet. If it is harder, more durable, and cheaper, why do you not make the whole road so?—I believe it is stronger and cheaper.

1018. Then why not make the whole road so?—It is cheaper than breaking an equal quantity of stone. Say I make my road with materials a foot in depth; if I broke that foot in depth I could pave it, and metal it with six inches at the top cheaper by one third than I could break the whole of it.

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1019. Sir *H. Parnell.*] With regard to paving 16 feet in breadth, have not the roads recently made by Mr. Telford in England where the traffic is considerable, been paved from side to side, that is 30 feet wide?—In two instances, where I have made roads under Mr. Telford, they have been paved across from side to side.

1020. Suppose a road paved across from side to side, and coated with broken stones from side to side, would you say that such a road might be made cheaper with a foundation of pavement than with broken stone laid upon the surface, supposing the thickness of the road of broken stone to be about 10 inches?—I am convinced it would be cheaper.

1021. Have you made a calculation upon that point?—I have; the average price paid for good stone in the county of Anglesey, is:

	s.	*d.*
Quarrying per cube yard - - - - - - - -		8
Breaking per - ditto - - - - - - - - -	1	10
Total for quarrying and breaking - - - -	2	6

The expense of paving the middle 16 feet in the usual way, with six inches of broken stone on it, will be, per yard lineal, 3 *s.* 0½ *d.*

The same width and depth of materials, but the lower six inches broken instead of being laid as a pavement, will be, per yard lineal, 4 *s.* 4½ *d.*

The same width without pavement, but having 10 inches in depth of broken stone, will be, per lineal yard, 3 *s.* 8¼ *d.*

In the latter case there will be a saving of one-third of a cube yard of stone, which, supposing the cartage to be worth 9 *d.* per yard cube, will reduce the cost 2 *d.* per yard lineal.

1022. Mr. *Childers.*] What is the composition of the other part which is not paved?—The upper part is of broken stone.

1023. To what depth?—Six inches.

1024. In your calculations do you confine yourself to the 16 feet?—I do.

1025. It is nothing to say there is the side between the 16 feet and the fences?—That is of no consequence; the same proportion will go through the whole.

1026. That is, a road 16 feet wide made with a pavement, will be cheaper than a road 16 feet wide made with broken stones?—Yes.

1027. If you double the depth it will of course be still cheaper?—Yes.

1028. *Chairman.*] If you were to make a road now, would you make it 16 feet or 32 feet?—I would make it 32 feet if I had plenty of materials.

1029. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Would that not depend on the traffic?—It would a good deal.

1030. In the greater part of Wales the breadth of 16 feet will be sufficient for the traffic when the road was first made?—It was.

1031. Have you not by degrees strengthened the sides according as you have had funds?—Nearly the whole of them.

1032. That is, you have laid on coats of stone, and brought them to be at present in a perfectly solid state?—Yes.

1033. *Chairman.*] As this happens to have been an old system (for I see here in 1819 the following question put; "Is not a road constructed with a roadway of 16 feet breadth of solid materials, and with six feet on each side of that with slighter materials, a sufficient road for the general purposes of country travelling?" this being before the Committee in 1819), if the old system works so well, how comes a new system to be so generally adopted of laying the stones on the road, such as we see in Oxford-street without any sub-pavement?—That I am not able to account for.

1034. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Would not, in your opinion, Oxford-street be a better street, and the materials wear less quickly out, if there was a pavement laid down before the broken stones were laid on?—Yes; I noticed, going down Whitehall, that that road is irregularly sinking. I can only account for that from the weakness of its foundation.

1035. How can you account for the great quantity of dirt that you see on the surface of the London streets, except by the working up of the dirt below?—I cannot account for it, except from the constant traffic over it.

1036. When small stones are laid upon a soil, is it not the case that they sink into the soil, and the soil rises up between them?—It naturally must, if they are thin.

1037. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] When you talk of a road being 16 feet wide in the middle

middle upon a total breadth of 32 feet, how do you support the pavement on the sides; how do you keep that pavement in its place?—The materials are sufficient; all the stones are placed lengthways; their abutment is chiefly against each other.

1038. What is the abutment of each extremity?—It does not require an abutment; it would support itself; we place each stone with the largest end downwards.

1039. *Chairman.*] Does the road want an abutment on each side?—I do not consider that it does.

1040. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Do you consider a road to be in the nature of an arch?—I do not.

1041. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Why is it that the stones at the extremity of each of these parallel lines do not give way in case of any regular pressure upon them?—If the pressure was lateral, they would give way; but the pressure is vertical.

1042. Sir *H. Parnell.*] The Holyhead road, I believe, was made by grants of public money from Parliament?—It was.

1043. Were those grants sufficiently large to admit of such an extent of road being made, so as, in the first instance, to make it all a pavement from side to side?—No.

1044. Was that the reason Mr. Telford proceeded on the plan of paving only 16 feet in the middle, in the first instance?—That is the only reason I ever heard assigned.

1045. As soon as the different parts of the road have been finished, according to the plan on which they were originally constructed, have not the side parts between the fences and the paved part been brought into a perfectly solid state by continually laying on fresh coatings of broken stones?—It has.

1046. So that the whole road now from side to side is a perfectly solid road?—Yes, with very trifling exceptions.

1047. Are the side parts of the Holyhead road so hard as what may be considered a good turnpike road?—No, I do not think they are; they are less worn; there is less traffic on the sides than in the centre.

1048. Originally the side parts were made of six inches of broken stone or rubbish?—Yes, generally.

1049. And you have been continually laying fresh broken stones upon it?—Where we found places show symptoms of being soft, we cut out the clay, or whatever it might be, and substituted good broken stones.

1050. How deep would you put layers of broken stones?—Generally about three inches in depth.

1051. Have you laid broken stones, so as to keep the surface perfectly hard and free from dirt?—Yes, we have.

1052. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] You do not find it work through?—Occasionally we have.

1053. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Do you find, practically, that almost all the traffic, almost every carriage that runs the road, runs upon the 16 feet in the middle?—It does; wherever I have seen an instance of cutting into the sides, it has been from putting fresh materials in the centre, that they go on the side to avoid it.

1054. In point of fact, the centre part of 16 feet answers the purpose of affording to carriages the advantages of a solid road and easy draft to the horses?—It does.

1055. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] As to the elasticity of the road, do you consider there should be any elasticity?—Decidedly not.

1056. *Chairman.*] What do you define to be an elastic road?—A road that will give way under any weight that is passing over it.

1057. You would not define any of those roads which do not yield to be elastic roads?—No.

1058. You would not define Oxford-street to be an elastic road?—I have no means of ascertaining that.

1059. What would you consider your own road?—Certainly not elastic.

1060. Did not Mr. Telford employ the plan of paving in order to destroy all elasticity as much as possible?—Yes.

1061. Mr. *Childers.*] I see Mr. M'Adam says, that "wherever a road is on a hard foundation, the road wears much sooner than placed on a soft substance?"—I never found an instance of that.

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1062. *Chairman.*] You do not think materials are more likely to wear on a hard substance than a soft?—They do not, if there is a good body of them.

1063. Supposing you wanted to crush a lump of sugar, would you not put it on a marble slab?—Yes, but if I did not want to crush it, I should put other lumps by the side of it.

1064. Are you not of opinion that if you have a quantity of broken lumps of sugar, and you put them on a piece of dough, they would be much less likely to crush than if you put them on stone?—Yes; they would sink into the dough.

1065. Sir *H. Parnell.*] How long have you been a surveyor on the Holyhead road?—Ten years.

1066. Have you had much experience of the crushing of materials on roads so as to be able to state whether they are liable to be crushed on a paved bottom?—We keep it too well coated to give it an opportunity.

1067. From your experience there is not any foundation whatever for the common notion that stones are crushed and destroyed when there is a pavement between them and the soil?—There is not when there is a good body of materials on the pavement.

1068. What number of cubic yards per mile do you use upon the Anglesea road for the common repairs of it?—Ninety-six yards were last year put on it.

1069. And that kept the road up?—Yes.

1070. There is a good deal of travelling over this?—There is a good deal, but I can hardly call it very considerable.

1071. How many coaches pass it every day?—Four each way daily; two mails and two coaches.

1072. Nothing else?—No more.

1073. Are there not lime carriages?—Yes, lime and coal.

1074. What is the quantity of materials you put on per mile between Bangor and Cernioge?—Seventy-three yards per mile.

1075. That keeps the road in perfect order?—It is in beautiful order.

1076. Where you have more traffic, namely, from that point to Chirk, what is the quantity of materials you put on per mile?—One hundred and sixty-two yards per mile.

1077. It is with those quantities that you keep the Holyhead Road in that order which every body admits, generally speaking, to be very good?—It is.

1078. You do not find, in point of fact, that sort of crushing takes place which destroys the materials very rapidly?—No, I think quite the reverse.

1079. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] There is no regular laying on of this 162 yards per mile; they are all laid on according to the exigencies of the place?—Just as they are wanted.

1080. No regular three or four inch layers?—No.

1081. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Is the road kept up to a proper degree of thickness?—I have every reason to believe it is.

1082. There is no wearing on the road?—No.

1083. Mr. *Fleming.*] Have you had any opportunity of making a comparison of materials?—No.

1084. What is the effect of an elastic road on the draught; do you consider it increases the labour?—Yes.

1085. *Chairman.*] You stated, if I understand you right, that the putting hard materials upon a hard road did not occasion the crushing of those materials; I ask you, from your own observations in this town, if you were to put a bushel of those pieces of broken granite in the middle of Oxford-street, would they or would they not be crushed? Let us assume a bushel of broken granite to be laid down without any picking it, that it may amalgamate with the other, put that bushel of broken granite upon a granite pavement, and let the traffic go on it, would not, in the course of half an hour, those stones be crushed?—A great many of them would, no doubt.

1086. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Would you, as an engineer, do such a thing as lay a bushel or two of stones in the streets?—Decidedly not.

1087. Why would you not?—If I understand your question, the only reason that I could put that quantity on was, that there was some little part that was out of shape.

1088. If you had to repair the streets of London, you would put on a sufficiently thick coat to prevent the crush that would take place, and not put it a single coat thick?—Yes.

1089. Does

1089. Does it not strike you, that before you put this bushel of broken stones or any quantity of broken granite on the road, that you would pick up the road, in order to present a surface for the stones that they might sink in?—I always put it on when the road is soft.

1090. You do not mean otherwise soft than just during the wet season?—I always put them on in the wet season.

1091. *Chairman.*] Why do you put them on in the wet season?—Because I always find the stones will bind much better.

1092. Do you not mean to say by binding, that there is a softness of surface, occasioned by the moistness, so that they sink in more easily by pressure, and avoiding the crush?—There is a greater degree of softness in wet weather than dry weather; they get better hold of the road in the wet season than in the dry.

1093. Sir *H. Parnell.*] You have observed that in London the practice is, before they lay on a coating of broken stones, to pick up an inch or two?—Yes.

1094. Is not that an expensive process?—I conceive very much so.

1095. It is a difficult process, is it not; a man cannot get on so fast?—Yes.

1096. Therefore a considerable expense is incurred by the operation of picking?—Yes.

1097. Is there not also a great waste in materials, by striking the surface with the pick-axe?—I should certainly suppose so.

1098. Then, in point of fact, the operation is of a very expensive character?—Yes.

1099. In your practice, you say you do not have recourse to it; that you lay on the materials, when the road requires repair, in the wet season; and do you find it bind perfectly well without?—Yes, I do.

1100. In point of fact, from your experience in repairing this long line of road, there is no occasion for this expensive operation?—I never find that there is.

1101. In some parts of the road I believe there is considerable traffic, which would show if there was any reason for the course being adopted that is adopted in London, in order to prevent what is conceived to be the crushing of materials; there is as much traffic in parts of the road where the coal carriages go, as in some parts of the streets of London?—I should think so, very nearly.

1102. When you spoke of putting on the materials in wet weather, is it because the surface is soft at that time?—It is not; it is because the materials are less firmly bound together in wet weather, and more easily allow the new coating to sink into the road than in dry weather.

1103. It is not soft?—It is not in a state of mud.

1104. It is so far less hard than in dry weather, as is natural from rain falling upon it?—Yes.

1105. *Chairman.*] What is your object, then, in putting this material on it in wet weather, if it is not a softer substratum?—Because it is easier to get it to set amongst the other stones.

1106. Mr. *Fleming.*] It is necessary to have a thicker coat of materials?—I never adopt that proceeding of picking up the stones.

1107. What is your rule with regard to the time of year in which you make your repairs by laying on new coatings?—I always begin in September, that I may have the advantage of all the wet weather to consolidate and to set the materials; I never, when I can avoid it, put a particle of stone on the road in the summer.

1108. *Chairman.*] You put it on in that time of the year that the substratum may be soft, and by that means these stones may unite with the crust; assuming that you have ever such wet weather, and you were to lay stones upon this table, and all the rain of heaven came down upon these nine inches of granite stone or basaltic stone; if nine inches were put upon this table, and it was exposed to the weather for 16 years, would they ever unite together?—I never put stones on a pavement such as this table, they would keep moving round.

1109. Do you mean that hard granite on a substance like this would bind together?—By their own pressure they would; all stones bind by crushing together.

1110. Sir *H. Parnell.*] What is your practice, supposing you have to make a road over a rock?—We usually level it as well as we can; we never can get it to a perfectly level surface; we level it first by quarrying and getting it into the general shape we want for the road; upon that we occasionally have paved, but generally the practice is to break the stones and then to lay a body of

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eight or nine inches of them on the top of it. Where we do not pave we always give a greater thickness of broken stone upon it.

1111. You do pave over the rocks?—In many instances we do.

1112. If you have a perfectly flat hard surface of rock, you would pave on that?—Yes.

1113. Mr. *Childers.*] Why?—Because the flat smooth stone would allow of motion upon it; the generality of rocks we blast have a good rough surface.

1114. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Have you formed any opinion as to the different force required, or the labour of horses in drawing carriages over roads made with pavements and made without them?—I should think it would be less, but that is merely matter of opinion.

1115. Have you ever had any opportunity of seeing any statement upon that subject?—I have.

1116. Where have you seen it?—In some of the Holyhead Road Reports. I think in the last made by Mr. Telford, there is a statement of some experiment made by a machine of Mr. Macneil's invention.

1117. Do those experiments show a difference of draught?—As far as I can recollect, they show a difference in favour of the paved system.

1118. Mr. *Childers.*] Are you aware that Mr. M'Adam said, that in a road near Bristol the expenditure was seven on a hard surface in comparison to five on a soft, the soft being over a bog?—I never heard that.

1119. Your experience does not accord with that view of the case?—No.

1120. Sir *H. Parnell.*] In proportion that materials wear longer by being on bog, would that occasion such a degree of elasticity as would add greatly to the labour of the horses in drawing a carriage over a road of that kind?—Yes.

1121. Is not the proper object of a good road to reduce as much as possible the labour of horses upon it?—Yes.

1122. *Chairman.*] You have stated that the draught is harder for horses on an elastic road?—Yes.

1123. In what way?—Because the weight to be moved is constantly in a hole.

1124. What do you define an elastic road to be?—An elastic road I consider to be that which will give way by pressure, and rise again to its original position when the pressure is removed.

1125. Do you consider the road in Oxford-street to be an elastic road?—I do not know whether I could call it elastic, I know so little of Oxford-street.

1126. Generally speaking, you define an elastic road to be one that yields to pressure. Do you consider then that such a road as you have called a pavement road, but which in fact ought to be called a laid road, do you consider these laid roads, to which you have been alluding, are or are not elastic?—I do not consider them elastic; at least they must be possessed of very much less elasticity than the broken-stone road.

1127. Have you at all considered the eligibility of consolidating the trusts and the funds of trustees of roads?—I have considered it, though perhaps not very maturely.

1128. Do you consider it advisable?—I do.

1129. Mr. *Childers.*] I think your road is 100 miles in length?—Yes.

1130. Do you think that in consolidation it is advisable to consolidate one great length of road or roads round a centre?—I should say one great leading road.

1131. Would you give your reasons for that?—Because, generally speaking, if you take some one leading road, there is a greater quantity of traffic, and it requires a different mode of management to side roads; there would be less material required, and less care would do for a side road than would be necessary for an extensive road, such as the Holyhead road.

1132. Supposing the present Holyhead road be left as it is, what species of consolidation do you think might be applied to the other roads that branch out of it?—I do not think I am capable of answering that question.

1133. You are not aware that there are any roads which could be advantageously united to the roads you are at present employed upon?—I am not.

1134. You have not turned your attention to the subject of substituting some other mode of revenue than tolls?—It is a subject that I have sometimes considered, and I think no other mode could be devised better than the present.

1135. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Have you thought anything as to the proposition of employing

employing persons engaged on the roads in the police?—I should not like my men to be turned into constables.

1136. *Chairman.*] Why not?—I should think they could not do their duty in both capacities; they would be taken away for various purposes unconnected with their duty to the roads.

1137. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Would it not produce a great derangement in the management of the work?—I think it would.

1138. Could you obtain as much work from your labourers if they were allowed to act as police as you now do as labourers only?—I think they would be often taken away from their work to act as police officers.

1139. Could you exercise so much control over them as to secure proper attention to the work which they have to perform?—I should very much doubt that.

1140. Workmen come at a certain hour in the morning and leave at a certain hour in the evening; could you, as a responsible servant to the commissioners, get as much labour done by your labourers as you do now, if those labourers were also employed in the police?—I should be afraid not.

1141. Then, in point of fact, this plan of making them a police would be an additional expense to the commissioners?—Yes, I conceive it would.

1142. And, at the same time, render the labourer less efficient?—Less efficient.

1143. *Chairman.*] You mean to say, that if they were taken from their work they could not do so much work for you?—They could not.

1144. Have you at all turned your attention to the question whether or not it would be advantageous to the public to have such a system of road constables by paying a little more additional to those individuals, and to take them off their work if it was required, which might not be often? Have you turned it at all in your mind whether such a system might be adopted with benefit to the country?—I feel convinced it would be of no use on the road on which I am engaged, at all events.

1145. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Are the circumstances of the country between Chirk and Holyhead such as to require any scheme of this sort of having a road police?—Decidedly not.

1146. Would they have anything to do?—Nothing.

1147. *Chairman.*] Then how would they be taken away from the road?—They might occasionally, but it would be trifling; I do not think I should be so exclusively their master as I am now.

1148. Why, you admit it would be an additional expense, therefore it would be an additional benefit to these men; you then say, that if they were taken off their work they would do less work; you say afterwards, they would have nothing to do as policemen, and therefore the natural result is, they would not have to be taken off their work; and then you admit they would have a little more pay, and you say that they would be less under your control?—I was wrong in saying they would have nothing to do; I think they would have very little to do.

1149. Sir *H. Parnell.*] In point of fact, the relative situation that you would stand in with regard to them, as the employer of them, in the name of the commissioners, would be totally changed; that is, you would not have the same facility of selecting your men, or of removing and dismissing them?—I should not. And there is another point; most of my men work by contract; you could not take them away from their contract work, and make them act as constables.

1150. How many labourers are generally employed on the road?—About 117.

1151. Are they principally employed by contract?—I should say two-thirds, at least.

1152. Through the year?—Through the year.

1153. In what way?—Breaking stones by contract; scraping the roads by contract.

1154. Then, in point of fact, you do find this to be an economical and efficient method of carrying on the business of the road?—I do.

1155. More than by employing day-labourers?—Yes.

1156. Introducing this system of police would be a derangement of this plan of contract which you have found so effectual?—Yes.

1157. *Chairman.*] How do you make that out? If your men work by contract, and you pay them so much for so much broken stones, if they are taken off that work they do less by contract, and you pay them less; how is it possible you can make out that you lose by it, or that it would be inconvenient?—Because the

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men would give up their contracts; they would not be annoyed in this manner; it would entirely derange our system; somebody must pay them for lost time.

1158. You state that these men are men who work by contract, therefore you only pay them in proportion to what they do; then you turn round, and say, that those men, if employed elsewhere, would be dissatisfied, because they would not be able to fulfil their contracts; but would they not get remuneration? If a man gets 3 *s.* a week more for being a police constable, and gets 1 *s.* less a week by contract, why should you be dissatisfied, or why should he?—Because it would take that 1 *s.* away from the trust fund; we should have to pay that man for acting as constable, and while he was acting as constable he would be neglecting our work; it would be giving each man two employers.

1159. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Suppose your men were liable to be called away for any other duty, could you undertake to say you could discharge your orders as punctually and as effectually?—I could not.

1160. *Chairman.*] Do you mean to say, if any of your men got drunk, and did not fulfil their contract, that would put you or the road to any inconvenience?—It certainly would, though we do not pay them for drunkenness.

1161. If any of your men, in consequence of getting drunk, could not fulfil their contract on that day, do you mean to say that a loss of that man's contract for a day would be an inconvenience to your trust?—Not that individual man, because I could get another man to do his work.

1162. Then supposing this man was called on to act as a police constable, and did not do his work for one day, how could it be any inconvenience to you?—I conceive that I should have that man's wages to pay.

1163. But you said just now you paid by contract?—If I do not pay him, who does? Somebody must pay him.

1164. We are speaking of this man who does your work by contract; if he does not fulfil his contract you do not pay him?—No.

1165. Then how can you say you have got to pay him if he is off the road?—If we did not pay him it would make no difference.

1166. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Suppose a labourer was appointed to act as constable, and that in consequence of that appointment of the power of dismissing him when you thought proper, would not that be attended with very great inconvenience?—Decidedly.

1167. Could you manage your labourers if you had not the power of instantly dismissing any of them?—No.

1168. Then any plan of interference, by appointing labourers to act as policemen, must necessarily lead to that inconvenient consequence?—If it prevented me having the power of dismissing them, it would.

Mr. *Thomas Penson*, called in; and further Examined.

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1169. Lord *Clive.*] DOES this plan contain the state of the district, as respects the different trusts in which you are concerned in the neighbourhood of Welshpool?—It does; it shows the direct line from Shrewsbury through Pool, on towards Machynlleth and to Aberystwith.

1170. State what the trusts were in the district of eight miles round Welshpool.—On starting from Pool you paid a gate close to the end of the town, which was in the second district, and you travelled on four miles in that district; you then come on an insulated part of the Oswestry district, upon which there was also a toll, and over which you passed nearly two miles; you then passed over a mile and a little more of the third Montgomery district, and paid a toll upon that; these three tollgates were within seven miles and a half in the whole distance; you then passed through the town of Llanfair, into the second Montgomery district, and paid another toll; so that within eight miles you passed over two separate trusts under separate Acts of Parliament, and over three separate districts; you then passed on for 26 miles, and paid no further toll until you came to the gate at Machynlleth. Starting again from Pool for Shrewsbury, you travel for three miles upon the first Montgomery district, which was, previous to passing the last Act, under the management of the trustees acting for the second district; then passing to what is called the Pool district, on the Shrewsbury road, and which is five miles in extent, you pay another toll; you then pass on for Shrewsbury upon what is called the Shelton district of the Shrewsbury road, you pay a toll upon that;

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that; there, in either way, you passed over three separate districts under two distinct Acts of Parliament. At the time I was appointed, there was one surveyor who managed a portion on the second district, west of Llanfair; another surveyor who managed that portion of the third district which was eastward of Llanfair; another surveyor who managed a portion of the Oswestry district; and another who managed so much of the second Montgomery district as was between Dollarddyn and Pool; there was another surveyor upon a portion of the first Montgomery district, east of Pool; a surveyor upon the Pool portion on the Shrewsbury district, and another surveyor upon the Shelton portion of the Shrewsbury district.

1171. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] How many miles of road?—Six upon 26.

1172. Lord *Clive.*] By how many sets of commissioners were the roads at Welchpool managed?—As all their acts are now made good by the last Act of Parliament, I may venture to say there were commissioners acting under an Oswestry Act, commissioners acting under the second district of the Montgomeryshire, and commissioners acting under the first district of Montgomeryshire, all in one body, and their orders were all entered into one book.

1173. Was there anything in the arrangement relative to these roads which might not have been put right by having had the advantage of the central board in London, to which reference might be made and adjudication was requested?—I should consider that the board in London, acting upon information that might be obtained from trustees circumstanced as the trustees of these several trusts and districts were, might with very great advantage, and without the expense of an Act of Parliament, have arranged their consolidation, which, to a great extent, has been partly done under the Montgomeryshire Local Act. At the time that Act was contemplated the other line of road, the Shrewsbury portion, was considered advantageous to be added to the Montgomery district, inasmuch as it amalgamated so much with its interests, but it being in a separate county it was not followed up.

1174. State the condition of the roads under your management compared to that in which they were when you were appointed surveyor?—At the time I undertook the management of the Montgomeryshire roads (the third district was that to which I was first appointed), the roads, generally speaking, were not in a state to be travelled by carriages on springs without danger. The expenditure at that time was not less than the amount now generally expended in repairs, but the materials used were of the worst description; the statute duty was inefficiently performed, and it is quite within the knowledge of honourable Members in this Committee, that a journey on wheels over the Montgomeryshire roads was one not undertaken without difficulty. Even on the principal thoroughfares into England, by way of Shrewsbury or Oswestry, the roads were, during the winter months, nearly impassable, but always dangerous. Frequent indictments swallowed up large sums in legal expenses, and it was the opinion generally entertained when I was appointed, that it was a useless attempt, as it was not possible to make good roads over a great part of that neighbourhood. There is no portion of these districts but which are now in a good state; indeed some part of the roads where I am employed are admitted to be equal to the best in the country. It is within the knowledge of an honourable Member of this Committee that one of the commissioners of the road from Shrewsbury to Holyhead has stated that the balance was for some time even between the Holyhead line and a portion of the Montgomeryshire road over which he had occasionally to travel, but that the Montgomeryshire road had then the preference. Considerable improvements have been made in the whole of them, independent of the repairs, as well as new lines. The expenditure per mile will be seen by the return submitted to the Committee in my former examination. This expenditure also includes the charge for what may be termed sub-surveyors, who are all labouring men, having the charge of from three to eight miles of road. There are not any sub-surveyors with salaries employed upon any of the roads under my management; the whole of that work is done by myself and my clerks within my salary. The superintendent or sub-surveyor is a working labourer, and his wages are included in the expenditure for repairs.

1175. State the expense at which the improvements have been accomplished?—Some improvements have been carried on out of the funds of the trust, by the annual savings; others by money borrowed on the credit of the tolls. I have no doubt from 20,000*l.* to 30,000*l.* have been expended, under my management, in

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improvements and new lines, independent of the general repairs upon those roads where I act as surveyor. Independent of those improvements I have advised in other trusts where I am not permanently employed. These improvements were not commenced originally with the same energy or liberality as they now are conducted; the impression was, that the state of the funds would not warrant the outlay, but experience has proved the contrary; and since this point has been established, the large landed proprietors and the trustees generally have adopted my suggestions for new lines and improvements to a much greater extent; and it has uniformly happened that the additional income from the tolls, after an improvement has been made, has been greater than the interest of the expenditure, and has admitted of a saving as a sinking fund to pay off the debt incurred. One bridge and its approaches, which cost upwards of 12,000 *l.*, and which was of immense advantage to the several districts adjoining it, was contributed to by the several trusts to the amount of 2,700 *l.* only, the remainder of the money was derived from other sources.

1176. State what those sources are.—The county of Salop, being an adjoining county, contributed 2,000 *l.*; the bridge was built upon a situation where the counties of Salop, Denbigh and Montgomery united; the county of Denbigh contributed 1,000 *l.*; the county of Montgomery, being the county in which the whole of the bridge was placed, contributed the remainder.

1177. Might not this bridge have been built abutting in the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, or in the counties of Salop and Montgomery, or so as to have been placed wholly in the county of Montgomery?—It might have been built wholly in the county of Salop, or in the boundary between the counties of Salop and Montgomery, but not in Denbigh. But the reason why Denbigh contributed was this: that they had a very ruinous bridge, over which the whole of the traffic passed (and a circuit of nearly a mile in the distance was made), which they would have been obliged to have repaired or widened at a considerable expense, had it not been they considered it was more advantageous to the neighbourhood to contribute this 1,000 *l.* towards the building of the new bridge, which I then submitted to them, acting for them as their surveyor, and with an estimate formed of what it would have cost that county to have repaired the old bridge; and upon those grounds the county contributed 1,000 *l.* to the bridge, although no part of it is within the county of Denbigh, being ultimately greatly to their saving as taking the traffic off a ruinous old bridge, which they must have repaired at a great expense.

1178. This was done under an Act of Parliament?—An Act of Parliament was obtained; several accidents had occurred in passing through the ford where the new bridge has been built.

1179. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] In what year?—It was built in 1826. I will state, it had been long the most anxious wish of the neighbourhood to have a bridge there; but as there were no legitimate funds that could be obtained for it, I had the instructions of Lord Clive and Sir Watkins Wynn, who are both largely concerned in the interest of the county of Montgomery, to put down their names at the head of a subscription for 500 *l.* each, provided means could be obtained for the building of the bridge. I took the liberty of suggesting to Lord Clive, as so many other calls would occur upon his purse, that I thought it was a matter of such public advantage, that a special Act of Parliament might probably answer the purpose, and his Lordship's money might be appropriated to some other public purpose, which I have no hesitation in saying has been long ago the case.

1180. Could you have accomplished your improvement had your directing power been other than the gentlemen of the neighbourhood, and unless you had had their full and cordial support?—I am confident the measure never could have been carried if I had not received the unanimous and most cordial support of the large landed proprietors interested in that part of the country. I would state to the Committee that the gentlemen of the neighbourhood have now adopted a system of borrowing money for carrying improvements or new lines into effect, which must tend to the certain liquidation of the debt. Whenever a loan is required, the sum is guaranteed by a personal guarantee, as a collateral security with the road mortgage, from each of the parties or trustees who undertake the measure. The money is thus borrowed at a lower rate of interest; the surplus between the rate at which it is borrowed and five per cent. is appropriated with the amount of the sinking fund; five per cent. further upon the net income of the road is appropriated to the liquidation of the principal debt; unless the gentlemen of the neighbourhood

neighbourhood would thus act, it would be difficult to borrow money, even at five per cent., and their interest in the economical expenditure of the funds is thus secured; and, without their assistance, these improvements could not be effected.

1181. Do you think a board of control would be advantageous as a board of control, provided the executive power was continued in the hands of the gentlemen of the locality?—A board of control in London would, in my opinion, be of great service for the purposes before stated in my evidence; but I do not think the officers of any local board should have their appointments from any other source but from that under which they act. A local board of control over several districts would exercise a better superintendence, and would be more certainly in a situation to obtain correct information as to the roads within that district of country than a board in London. They should be possessed of full powers, and should be chosen from the districts over which they would have to preside. From this board all returns should be forwarded to the central board in London, which latter board should have full power to call on the district board for all returns, accounts or informations required. I think this description of control would sufficiently check any mismanagement of the funds or any misapplication of the powers of the local boards, without negativing that strong feeling for assisting our improvements which now so generally pervades the country in which I am engaged. The number of the commissioners of this local board should be few, as the responsibility would thereby be increased. I think the trustees of districts are now generally too numerous; a higher qualification would, in my opinion, be desirable; and as long as the law continues as it now is, the qualification should, in my opinion, be entirely in real estate, and I am strongly inclined to think should be within the trust for which the trustee is to act.

1182. What would be the effect of throwing the repairs of county bridges, in the district where you are surveyor, upon the funds of turnpike roads?—The counties pay near 300 *l.* per annum towards the repair of the roads at the ends of bridges where I am surveyor; this sum, if not paid by the counties, would be taken from the trust funds, by which their income would be diminished.

1183. What would be the effect of throwing the repairs of county bridges upon the trustees of turnpike roads?—There are upwards of 400 bridges in the two counties for which I am surveyor; some of those bridges have been built under my directions at a cost of from 5,000 *l.* to 7,000 *l.* Since I have been appointed surveyor of the county of Montgomery, I have designed and built within that county between 40 and 50 bridges, all exceeding 350 *l.* in value, and some having cost from 3,000 *l.* to 5,000 *l.* There are several bridges in that county on the great thoroughfares which may, with careful management, last for a few years, but there are four bridges over the Severn, within the limit of 10 miles, in the county of Montgomery, which one winter's flood may carry away; these bridges could not be rebuilt for less than 20,000 *l.* or 25,000 *l.*; this would completely ruin all the trusts in the county, and would totally annihilate the securities if the charge was to fall upon the trust funds. The floods in the autumn of 1833 carried away bridges in that county which it has and will cost 5,000 *l.* to rebuild; had those been chargeable upon the district it would have taken considerably more than one year's expenditure upon the repairs of the four districts to have rebuilt them. The two counties for which I am employed, I think, have the greater number of bridges, except in Devonshire, of any county in the kingdom, and most of them very expensive; the Dee and the Severn, and some other very large rivers, run through both those counties, and tend very greatly to increase the expense of the counties.

1184. What would be the effect of exempting lime from the payment of toll in the district in which you are concerned?—The exemption of lime for manure from payment of toll would completely destroy the income of several of those roads for which I am concerned. It is a fact, that upwards of 120 waggons laden with lime pass through more than one turnpike gate within these districts within 24 hours; when I was first employed, there had generally been five or six horses to each waggon; three is the number now generally used, rarely four, and I have seen several waggons with only two horses, since the surface has been brought into a good state, and where the hills have been avoided by new lines. If toll upon lime carried for manure is abandoned, the securities of the mortgagees will be valueless, and the funds of the roads will be so reduced that the parishes will in most cases have to maintain the road by a rate. There are con-

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siderable portions of the roads for which I am concerned that are positively agricultural roads, mainly used for the carriage of lime, and some of that carried 25 miles by land carriage.

1185. I think you distinctly approve of the consolidation of the trusts?—I am satisfied from experience that a consolidation of trusts, upon proper and justifiable arrangements, must greatly tend to the general advantage of the country; but I am not of opinion one district should be heavily taxed for the advantage of another, unless the benefit to be derived will tend to the general advantage of the whole who contribute; and upon that I should not myself contemplate any great difficulty in the arrangement. Taking the arrangements which were made under the Montgomery Local Act as to the debts in the consolidation of this district, there was no difficulty; it was settled by two very able trustees, with such assistance as it was in my power to afford them, and they got through the whole of the business without difficulty.

1186. You are aware of the great inconvenience to the public of turnpike-gates being established where different trusts unite; can you inform the Committee of your having made up your mind as to any remedy for this inconvenience?—I would give the trustees of each district a power to make arrangements for allowing the extreme gates in each district to clear each other, under proper stipulations. At present, one district, according to the law, has no power to compound with an adjoining district; and where the gates are placed at the extreme ends of two districts, which probably may be requisite, in consequence of the facility of avoiding a toll, provided they were placed at some other situation, it entails upon the trustees of the two districts a very onerous duty, inasmuch as they are obliged to enforce the toll, although the two gates may not be a greater distance than 300 or 400 yards from each other; whereas if the trusts of each extreme had the power of allowing some composition to be made, so that those gates might clear each other, no great loss of toll would be suffered, and a great local injury would be avoided.

1187. *Chairman.*] Do you mean to say you would give the power to one set of trustees to do it in despite of the other?—No, by arrangement.

1188. Do not you think by law now two sets of trustees coming to an understanding have the power?—We are told not; and it is a subject upon which much controversy, and frequent annoyances have arisen; and although the trustees of the two adjoining districts have felt every inclination to make the arrangement, by which the gates at the extremes of each district should clear each other, yet they have been legally advised they did not possess the power so to do.

1189. You are aware trustees can remit a toll if they think fit; for instance, we have two gates, one here and the other there; I am trustee for this gate, another Member is trustee for the other; have we not a right to come to an understanding with each other, to say "Your ticket shall pass free here, provided our ticket passes free with you;" I conceive that right now exists?—We have had committees on two separate portions of the road, under immediately parallel cases to that which the honourable Chairman states; I mean on two separate points of our trust; and those committees, anxious to do so, were told by their legal adviser that they had not the power, and that they could not order the toll of one district to be interfered with by allowing the ticket of another district to free the gate.

1190. Mr. *Roche.*] That must depend on the local Act of Parliament?—It must. My reason for mentioning this subject particularly was, that in the event of any general Act passing, a clause of that description being inserted would greatly facilitate the duties of trustees in the part of the country where I am engaged.

1191. *Chairman.*] You have been stating it would be desirable to have a consolidation of trusts, by that, I suppose, you mean a consolidation both of the management of the trust and of the funds of the treasurer?—Decidedly.

1192. How will you obviate the difficulty which presents itself, of consolidating the fund of the trusts, if one is a poor trust and the other is a rich one, and that the rich trust should decline to be united with the one that is in debt?—The difficulty, I conceive, has always arisen on the subject of the securities and mortgages; I think the mortgagees are the parties who are more likely to be dissatisfied than any other; but by appropriating in the first place (as invariably has been the case in the districts where I am concerned, where there have been consolidations, and where very poor trusts have been married to very rich ones) a

fund

fund for the payment of interest out of the whole stock, this difficulty has been obviated, and eventually overcome.

1193. But still how would you recommend the Legislature to act; would you say it should be compulsory upon the trust to be so united, or would you make it compulsory only to unite the consolidation of the management, and not to unite a consolidation of funds unless you had got the approbation of the parties concerned?—I would consolidate both the funds and the management, and I think there would be always that equitable arrangement existing among a body of trustees forming a consolidated trust, that after they had paid the accruing interest they would not be disposed lavishly to expend upon a poor trust that which it was not entitled to, unless it was clearly made out to them (and in nine cases out of ten I conceive the fact would be very clear) that by the improvement of a small trust, thus connected with them, and which might not have sufficient means to carry the works to completion from the funds derived from that road alone, they would bring into their own trust an increase of income by causing a greater traffic. If so, I may term it a supply that will tend greatly to their advantage.

1194. *Chairman.*] I will put a case in point. There is a trust in Yorkshire, the revenue of which is only 30 *l.* a year; the trust has got in debt 10,000 *l.*; how is it possible for the Legislature justly and wisely to force a rich trust in the neighbourhood to be married, as you call it, to the trust with a revenue of 30 *l.* a year, and 10,000 *l.* in debt?—The local boards, which I have taken the liberty of suggesting to the Committee, should have an opportunity of forming the foundation, if any foundation was feasible, upon which those trusts might be consolidated, and of submitting that foundation for the adoption of the central board; this should be done upon evidence and statements prepared under the authority of the local board, and which might be forwarded to the central board well authenticated; provided the central board, upon such statements, saw that it was probable or possible that the consolidation might be attended with advantage, I would give the central board the power of consolidating such trusts or districts; but I am not of opinion that any Legislative enactment can be carried into effect to do this, without having occasionally to interfere with private interests.

1195. Your opinion, therefore, is this: that the Legislative enactment, if made, ought to be made subservient to the determination of the central board?—Certainly, but upon the application of the local boards.

1196. But that it should not be compulsory to do it without their concurrence?—Certainly not; the local boards might consist of five or six trusts at present in existence; and if it should be the opinion of the trustees of those five or six trusts that it would be an advantage to the whole of them to be consolidated, and that four out of the five or six happen to be rich and the other very poor, and if it should be made out by statements to the central board, with the full concurrence of the trustees acting in the country (and their local information and local knowledge must be derived from the most authentic sources, and I must say, as far as I have ever been concerned, they are invariably influenced by liberal conduct and an anxiety to do a public good); where it is once made out to the central board that it would be an advantage that the four rich trusts and two poor ones should be consolidated, taking the general object of the country in view, the four rich trusts should not have the power of objecting to that. It should be within the functions of the central board, upon a representation and proper statements well authenticated from the country board, to compel a consolidation, without going to the expense of an Act of Parliament. I would also give to the central board a full power to direct what composition should fairly be made with the mortgagees of the poor trusts intended to be consolidated, either by reducing the principal sum or reducing the annual interest. Where an arrear of interest has accumulated for a number of years, and no visible prospect appears of any increase in the tolls, to enable the trustees to pay even the accruing interest, it is a fallacy to continue the system; a composition under such circumstances is better for the mortgagees, and the only possible chance of relieving the road. I would give the central board full power to fix in such cases the amount of composition.

1197. You are of opinion the Legislative enactment ought to give a full power to the central board of compelling the consolidation of trusts if it was thought desirable?—Upon the representation from the country board, advising or suggesting such a consolidation.

1198. Then, in your opinion, any Legislative enactment, unless compelling

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power was given to the central board upon the representation from the local board, would be ineffectual?—I think it would.

1199. Lord *Clive.*] I believe you stated in your former examination that you had not considered of any substitution for supporting turnpike roads, so as to do away with tolls?—No; I have always considered a toll the most equitable mode of raising a fund for the maintenance of roads; and I am inclined to believe, as far as the country in which I am concerned is affected, that the expense of collecting is quite within the charge I have stated in my former examination. It may be an inconvenience and annoyance to travellers, and a general tax may be collected at a less expense, but there are local advantages which would be sacrificed if tolls were abandoned; and though the locality may probably pay the principal amount, yet I think the inhabitants derive local advantages from good roads, of which, under a different system, they may be deprived, and which, in my opinion, would be the case.

1200. Are there within your district certain townships immediately contiguous to the turnpike road, the inhabitants of which do not contribute to the statute duty and composition hitherto apportioned to the turnpike roads?—There are several townships immediately contiguous to the turnpike road (but which the road does not pass through) which do not contribute either in statute duty or composition to the repairs, although as far as regards the wear and tear, and the advantages to be derived from the road, those townships have the full use and convenience, and do so use it with the inhabitants of those townships through which it does pass, and to the repair of which they contribute. There are two large properties belonging to a noble Lord, a Member of this Committee, both exempt from statute duty and composition to the turnpike road under these circumstances; although in one case the fence of the road is the boundary of the township for nearly a mile, and in the other there is not more in any case than 100 yards between the turnpike road and that property which does not contribute for nearly two miles in extent.

1201. Might not throwing several districts together, and laying upon such larger area an average statute duty or rate in lieu of it, secure an income upon easier terms to the public than upon the present system, which limits the levy to such townships as the turnpike road passes through, although the neighbouring district may be equally benefited?—Custom has made the townships only liable to the statute duty, or contribution in lieu of it. The Old Highway Acts made the levy chargeable on the parish, where custom had not prescribed to the contrary. I think a parish in general sufficiently extensive for making a levy upon, and in 19 cases out of 20 it would have the effect contemplated.

1202. Suppose the statute duty or levy in lieu of it was raised upon the county funds, as the county rate is made, would that be an improvement?—I do not think the proportion to be allotted to turnpike roads would be so equitably ascertained over so large a district as a county, as may be effected with regard to a parish or township. If the levy should be upon the county, and the duty of apportionment should devolve upon the magistrates in quarter sessions, it would greatly increase the onerous duties they already have to perform, provided any distribution is to be made upon the townships or parishes, according to the distance of road and their usual liabilities.

1203. What description of materials do you use?—I always use the best materials the country produces, although the distance of carriage may be very great. I frequently carry the materials by land five or six miles, whereas a worse description of materials may be obtained along the line. Where water conveyance can be obtained, the materials are carried 20 or 30 miles. Inconvenience arises from want of power to obtain materials from distant quarries, where conveyance by water can be made available. A road for which I am employed as surveyor, is prevented from using a material which would be highly beneficial, by the refusal of a proprietor of land adjoining the river to allow the material to be carried over his property; if it is carried over his property, it also passes over the highway within the township, and he has been solicited by his neighbours in the township not to allow that highway to be cut up by the carriage of the very best of materials that can be produced, inasmuch as we have no power to go into thrice the length of this room through his land to the water side, to carry away the very material that we have carried down by water 20 miles.

1204. What

1204. What is the value of the statute duty, and the composition in your district?

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STATEMENT of the Revenue and Expenditure in Repairs and Improvements on the Roads comprised in the *Montgomeryshire* Road Act.
(Under my district as Surveyor.)

	Revenue from Tolls.	Incidental Receipts.	Contribution in lieu of Statute Duty.	Length of Road in Miles.	Expended in Repairs.	Expended in Improvements.	Estimated Value of Statute Duty.	Mortgage Debt.	
	£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£.	
Portion of first district -	2,062	121 14 –	249 11 4	70	1,260 8 3	800 – –	420 13 4	11,365	For the year ending December 1834, the account for 1835 not having been printed.
Ditto - ditto (*a*) -	938	- -	96 4 7	66	836 7 –	4,681 – –	282 – –	11,531	
Second district - -	2,868	7 10 –	470 7 8	91	1,159 – –	3,036 – –	611 6 8	22,896	For the year ending December 1835.
Third district - -	2,182	82 14 10	228 2 10	96	972 – –	393 – –	407 19 –	9,487	
Fourth district (*b*) - -	833	- -	133 9 –	60	401 12 6	1,446 4 –	151 19 2	6,794	
Oswestry district - -	2,972	49 5 6	43 – –	80	1,780 – –	405 – –	375 10 –	10,381	

(*a*) This portion of the district is not under my charge as surveyor, but is superintended by a committee of trustees.
(*b*) Under the charge of a separate surveyor.

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1204*. Lord *Clive.*] By what authority was it raised?—Under the provisions of the General Turnpike Act, and the General Highway Act, which last Act has been repealed, and the whole of the powers have now ceased. The magistrates are unable, owing to the repeal of the old Highway Acts, to enforce their own orders, although made previous to the 20th March, on which day the new Highway Act came into operation, and considerable sums in contribution and composition, as also the whole of the statute duty not performed before the 20th March, will be lost to the several trusts unless some legislative measure is passed during the present Session of Parliament, giving the trustees the power to enforce the orders which were duly and legitimately made. It had never been the practice to call out the whole of the duty, and to collect the whole of the composition so early in the year; in fact, it would frequently be most injurious to the turnpike-roads to allow the whole of the statute duty to be carried upon the road during the winter months, as the traffic would then do more injury than during the spring and summer months.

1205. What are the salaries of the officers in those districts with which you are connected?

	Income from Tolls.	Distance in Miles	Clerk's Salary.	Treasurer.	Surveyor.	
	£.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£.	
First district - -	3,007	136	20 – –	25 – –	127	Clerk to surveyor not absolutely settled.
Second district - -	2,868	91	50 – –	7 17 6	150	
Third district - -	2,182	96	31 10 –	24 – –	120	
Fourth district - -	833	60	10 – –	10 – –	60	
Oswestry district -	2,972	80	12 – –	no salary.	113	

1206. How many surveyors have you altogether?—A surveyor for each district; I hold the appointment for each.

1207. Is that in accordance with the tables published in 1829?—No; there you find I am down 43 times. I hold the appointment of surveyor of a portion of the first district of the Montgomeryshire road, of the whole of the second district, and of the whole of the third district; also the Oswestry district, and for the Pool and Shelton districts in the Shrewsbury Act.

1208. How does it happen this statement of yours is so much at variance with the printed statement made to the House in 1829?—Because the districts are subdivided into small portions, and they kept an account for each; they kept 43 accounts, whereas in point of fact there were only five trusts.

1209. Do you find a difficulty through parts of your district in getting persons competent to keep your accounts?—I find a considerable degree of difficulty in obtaining working men who are capable of keeping good accounts.

1210. Do you think your men that you are now employing on the road as superintendents could be usefully employed as a police?—I have no doubt that the

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directing men, those who have the charge of from three to five or eight miles of road, might be very advantageously employed as a police without that alarming cost that seems to be contemplated; I think they would feel a little raised in their station by being appointed special constables, and it would not be a source of any considerable increased expenditure; I think it would be an advantage to the country generally.

1211. Have you turned your thoughts to the consideration of the propriety of mail-coaches paying turnpike tolls?—I have always considered it a great hardship that that coach which generally charges the highest fare, and which has also an allowance from the Post-office for carrying the mail, should pass through turnpike-gates without paying its fair remuneration upon the road from Shrewsbury to Newtown, which is the only mail-coach road we have in the county of Montgomery: the tolls to be received from the mail-coach on that line would be 220*l.* a year, upon a distance of thirty miles; the expenditure per mile upon that road being from 35*l.* to 50*l.* per mile in repairs, exclusive of the statute duty, which may be estimated at 7*l.* per mile.

Lunæ, 6° die Junii, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Mr. Richard Walker.
Mr. Walter Long.	Colonel Rushbrooke.
Mr. Chalmers.	Mr. Ormsby Gore.
Mr. Evans.	Mr. Fleming.

WILLIAM A. MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Alexander Gordon*, called in; and further Examined.

Mr. *Alexander Gordon.*

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1212. *Chairman.*] WHAT is the actual power of a horse?—The average power of a horse's draught upon a line of direction level with his shoulders or collar, may be stated at 200 lbs.: that is to say, he can haul such a suspended weight of 200 lbs. up a perpendicular line, the horse walking at the rate of 2 ½ miles per hour; he can work steadily with this power day by day, eight hours per diem. Mechanics calculate the horse-power of a steam-engine at 250 lbs., moved 2 ½ miles per hour; but in the case of a horse, he has to carry himself; and although he actually exerts, at this velocity, a force of 250 lbs., 50 lbs. of it (from 1–25th to 1–30th of his own weight) is required for his own locomotion, so that 200 lbs. is the effect which he produces. If the weight to be moved be not suspended perpendicularly, but placed upon wheels, for the reduction of friction by a rope on an inclined plane, the horse will be able to do more, in proportion to the decrease in the elevation of the plane; the surface of that plane and the state of friction of the wheels and bearings must of course form a part of any calculation of a horse's duty. When the speed of the horse is much increased, there is a great defalcation in his effective power; he may be urged to such a speed that his whole power is absorbed in his own locomotion. The power of a horse, however, cannot be certainly stated, for by a principle of vitality he can concentrate his power. By putting forth an intensity of power, he can for a short time do at a high velocity almost as much work as the 200 lbs. I have repeatedly seen a horse gallop 200 yards at 11 ½ miles per hour, and exert a power of draught equal to 135 lbs., besides the muscular power exerted in his own locomotion, and with a boy on his back; and it is this inexplicable principle of vitality which prevents a driver from remarking the great demand for power when a carriage comes upon new metal, or when it ascends a very slight "clivity." The whip and spur are perhaps applied, but they are no measures of the tractive power exerted. In the course of many experiments with locomotive carriages upon turnpike roads, during an experience over more than 3,000 miles, at velocities varying from two to twenty miles per hour, I have seen the great variation in demand for power. This demand for power, which cannot be properly estimated by drivers, with very few exceptions, shows the necessity for obtaining

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obtaining good levels by reducing the "clivities," so as to escape from the resistance of gravitation, and for forming good services, so as to escape as much as possible from the resistance of collision and the resistance of surface; the friction of the axles and working parts are beyond the remedy of the road-maker.

1213. What figures express the friction of wheels and axles, together with the actual surface resistance of the road; say, on a railroad, on a broken granite road of the best description, and on a road covered with the bituminous surface which you exhibited to the Committee?—On an edge railway, these resisting forces are as low as 10 lbs. for the movement of one ton. The available tractive power which a horse can easily put forth at 2½ miles per hour being 200 lbs. We have, then, $\frac{200 \text{ lbs.}}{10 \text{ lbs.}} = 20$ tons; or 20 tons moved by one horse, on a truly level line, in his day's work of eight hours, a distance of 20 miles. On a turnpike road made of broken stone, in the best manner, the resistance of friction and surface are at least 43 lbs. for the movement of one ton; now, $\frac{200 \text{ lbs.}}{43 \text{ lbs.}} = 4{\cdot}65$ tons. Thus, more than four and a half tons are moved 20 miles, on a true level, by one horse, in eight hours. On a turnpike road covered with the bituminous surface described in the former part of my evidence, the resistance of friction and surface are equal to 15 lbs. for the movement of one ton; now, $\frac{200 \text{ lbs.}}{15 \text{ lbs.}} = 13{\cdot}3$ tons. Thus, 13·3 tons, or more than 13¼ tons can be moved by one horse, along a true level, for eight hours. I lately examined a part of the public road between Bolton-le-Moor and Darwen. It is over a hilly district, and made and mended with a friable yellow sand-stone, which is soon ground to sand. The road is, in fact, a sand factory for the founders in the neighbourhood and in Manchester, who purchase the sand which has been ground of the horse labour of the toll-payers; the tractive power necessary for moving a ton, on a level part of that road, was nearly 240 lbs. If the horse that has worked on a good, level, well-bound broken-stone road, drawing four and a half tons a distance of 20 miles, be brought here, and equally worked on the level, he cannot draw one ton for eight hours. By comparison of the three road surfaces just mentioned, the proportional number of horses to do a given duty in each would appear thus:

On the level broken-stone road of the best description - -	43 horses.
On the level bituminous road surface - - - - -	15 horses.
On the level miserable road surface just mentioned - -	240 horses.

The last-mentioned road is, no doubt, an extreme case; it cannot, however, be considered a solitary one; and these three roads show that, in this country, where so many millions of tons are annually transported by the public roads, an immense amount of money now expended in horse labour appears to be thrown away, and this, in consequence, is an extra charge imposed upon every transportable commodity which ministers to our daily necessities. In answering the two last questions, I have not spoken of the demand for power for surmounting hills and even small rates of inclination. Where the weight has to be drawn up hill, the resisting force of gravitation has to be considered. By using the well-known rule for determining this, a rule which Mr. M'Neill, with his usual industry, has shown to be the proper one (*see* the Seventh Report, Holyhead Road Commissioners), the three roads just alluded to may be placed in juxta-position with the increments of power demanded by different rates of inclination. Thus,

TABLE showing the comparative Number of Horses required when an equal quantity of work is required of each Horse, for Eight Hours, over different Roads.

When on the following Levels and Acclivities.	On the Bituminous Surface.	On the best Broken-stone Road.	On the miserably bad Road of Friable Sand-stone.
Level - - -	1,500 horses -	4,300 horses -	24,000 horses.
1 in 1,000 - -	1,520 — -	4,320 — -	24,020 —
1 in 500 - -	1,540 — -	4,340 — -	24,040 —
1 in 250 - -	1,580 — -	4,380 — -	24,080 —
1 in 100 - -	1,700 — -	4,500 — -	24,200 —
1 in 50 - -	1,900 — -	4,700 — -	24,400 —
1 in 30 - -	2,166 — -	4,966 — -	24,666 —
1 in 20 - -	2,500 — -	5,300 — -	25,000 —

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I am making an effort to ascertain the power or strain upon the traces which must be exerted in moving any carriage along the numerous lines of turnpike roads; to compare the values of different lines of road, and the exact amount of difference as regards horse power and other power requisite for moving a given speed along different lines, and for ascertaining the value of different road surfaces. It would be of the utmost importance if road-trustees saw the value which must result to them by their being furnished with an accurate check upon those who are entrusted with the repairs or improvements; and I am now arranging for makin surveys by means of an improved road measurer on my lines of road: the machine registers for itself, on a roll of paper, with great accuracy, the tractive power neces sarily exerted on any and every part of the road's length, when moving a carriage of any kind along any road, and at any velocity practicable for traffic on turnpike roads; it also registers, at the same time and on the same roll of paper, the distance travelled, the ascents and descents, bearings and time; the roll or rolls of paper furnishing at once a map and section, and the substance for a report. I calculate the price at which such a report of the exact state of every road could be made would be 15*s.* per mile for the first survey, and 10*s.* per mile for each succeeding survey which may be required.

Mr. *Thomas Penson,* called in; and further Examined.

Mr. *Thomas Penson.*

1214. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] IN the former part of your evidence, you stated your opinion, that if a central board was formed in London to take the sole management of the roads, the direction and application of the funds, and the appointment of the officers, that it would be taking out of the hands of the local trustees a power which at present creates an interest from the locality in the improvements of the roads, and that interest would be negatived, and that the assistance heretofore received from large landed proprietors would be withdrawn; I wish to know in what the assistance you allude to principally consists?—The assistance that has heretofore been received has been twofold; I may almost say invariably the land has been given, the rule has been such, the other has been the exception. The general rule is, that the land has been given by the small as well as the large landed proprietors. I am now cutting through the property of an individual upon one line of road to the extent of four miles; the whole of that land is given, and the next adjoining proprietor gave his land to the extent of a mile, and fenced the whole line at his own expense; the proprietor, through whose land it was taken four miles, advanced 1,000*l.* towards the making of it; the other proprietors on the line have given their land, and are lending their assistance in money. There is another branch attached to that where an honourable Member of this Committee is a party, and most mainly interested, and he has given the whole of his land, and has authorized me, at his expense, to form the whole of that line of road; and he advanced the money on the credit of the tolls. Within these few days I have seen a gentleman who has considerable interest in that immediate neighbourhood, although he is very rarely upon his property, and I told him what was contemplated, and requested his assistance; he said, he would either lend or give; I told him that a gift would be much better for the trust then concerned, and he immediately gave me a sum of money, positively as a gift. We had a conversation afterwards upon the subject of the Bill now before Parliament for the formation of the central board, and, as he is a party high in influence, I was anxious to have his opinion upon the operation of that Bill if it passed into a law; the answer he gave me was, "if that, which is contemplated by this Bill, had now been the law for the management of the roads, I should neither have given my land nor money: it is the interest which the gentlemen in the neighbourhood seem decidedly to take in the improvements that has induced me to assist you in the way I have done before, and I am willing still to do, and to continue at any time you make application to me." On the other lines of road, all of which have been rendered necessary by the passing of the late Montgomeryshire Act, by which the trusts were consolidated, there are several instances in which the proprietors have given their land for a mile and a mile and a half and two miles in extent; some of those works are completed, others are now carrying on, and when I state the general proportion of that land is of great value, and not through an open country, I think the Committee will see the interest taken by the gentlemen in that neighbourhood is of the most advantageous effect to the country there.

1215. I understood

1215. I understood you, in your former examination, you expressed yourself rather as approving of the system of consolidation, and a board in London constituted in a particular manner; now will you give me leave to ask you whether that opinion was not founded on the principle of that board only taking the superintendence of the different districts of the kingdom as an intermediate board between the local board and the Legislature, with a view to facilitate the arrangement, that otherwise the local boards must go to Parliament to accomplish?—I have always considered that one of the greatest drawbacks upon the funds of a turnpike road has been the expense of the renewal of the Acts of Parliament; any system that can be adopted by which the same means can, at a reduced expense, be attained, for incorporating or forming a turnpike road, which are now attained at the expense of an Act of Parliament, would be a great relief to the funds. As far as a board of control, for the purpose of effecting that which local boards in their judgment may be of opinion would be an advantage to the country, and which cannot now be effected without going to Parliament. A central board, constituted in London upon those grounds, would be a great saving and a permanent advantage to the country, inasmuch as it would save expense, and all returns might be obtained from the local boards by that board, and thus prepared for the Legislature. According to the system at present adopted, these returns are in many instances incorrect; and, if the districts are consolidated, and thereby made more extensive, the error will increase. Accounts and returns of the description required never can be satisfactorily made out at a general annual meeting of the trustees, which meetings are in most cases too numerously attended, and on that account not so well calculated for the preparation and examination of accounts and returns as a local board would be, the members of which, being few in number, would feel the greater responsibility, and would therefore make themselves more intimately acquainted with the different subjects upon which they might be engaged, and have to report. The returns and accounts from the several trusts would be furnished to these local boards, and their knowledge of the circumstances within their own neighbourhood would enable them, with the assistance of the officers of the district, to detect and rectify those very many errors which now appear upon the face of the returns made to the Secretary of State, and which, when printed (the present arrangement not affording the necessary means of revision), may mislead Parliament by that which is incorrect, being set forth as a public document.

1216. Am I to understand you disapprove of a board in London that was to interfere with the local arrangements and funds of the different trusts when consolidated?—I am of opinion if the central board interferes with the internal management, and once is placed in a situation to dictate to the county or local boards their duties, that so soon there is an end of the interest which those parties now take in the management and improvements of the roads, affording so much valuable aid and assistance.

1217. And it is with that view you consider the gentleman to whom you have just now alluded, stated that he certainly should not have subscribed had the arrangement been made that the board in London was to have the management instead of the local board?—I conceive that was his intention.

1218. *Chairman.*] If I understand you right, this is your position; you think the central board in London would be desirable if it were to interfere only with the financial department in superintending the disposition of the money, and the expense to be incurred by the different local boards; but you are of opinion that if a central board was to interfere with the executive management of the local boards that it would disgust the country gentlemen, and prevent them from taking that interest in the superintendence which they do at present?—That is my opinion; I would go further, and say as far as regards the opinions which I have generally heard, and from the extent of country over which I am engaged I have had much opportunity of collecting those opinions, I am satisfied that such is the universal opinion. Although there are parties who are advocates for a central board to control and to require and obtain returns, I have never heard a single advocate for a central board to interfere with the internal management.

1219. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Have you anything to suggest to the Committee by which you think it probable an arrangement might be effected with the mortgagees of a poor trust, which it would be desirous to consolidate with a rich trust?—I am at present engaged in a case in some degree similar to that adverted to by the honourable Chairman in my former examination, relating to a trust in Yorkshire; a branch of road now attached to the Oswestry district, was originally formed

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under a distinct Act of Parliament, but upon the present Oswestry Act being passed, this road was incorporated in that Act; a special clause was inserted, making this branch of road exclusively chargeable with its own debt, amounting to upwards of 3,600*l.*, upon which no interest has been paid for upwards of 20 years. The income of the gates on this line does not exceed 80*l.* per annum, and the distance of the road is about eight miles. As the money was originally subscribed by the inhabitants of Oswestry and its neighbourhood, I proposed to the trustees to allow me to endeavour to buy up, on the account of the trust, the mortgages upon this road, at a sum not exceeding eight per cent.; I had partially succeeded, and had met with very few or no positive objections, but upon the introduction of Mr. Fox Maule's Bill, the creditors began to fancy they should receive the full amount of their mortgages, and would not then compound. I am of opinion in cases like the Yorkshire case, as well as the one I now allude to, a composition could be effected with advantage to the roads and to the creditors, particularly when the funds of the trust could never be expected to be solvent under the then existing arrangements.

1220. Mr. *Walter Long*.] On the subject of consolidation of the fund of a rich trust and a poor trust together, might they not keep their accounts perfectly separate, the poor trust continuing to pay the interest on its debt, so that by the consolidation economy might be introduced, and the trusts might be managed for less money, which would be a saving to both parties?—We have done that in some cases.

1221. In the case of consolidation under the Poor Law Act they have done that, and an account is kept for each separate parish; why should not that be done for each separate trust?—That has negatived consolidation in some of the districts where I am concerned, each of them keep their accounts separate, each distinct road is kept to itself, but we find by those means the funds are crippled; there is a diversity of management, and the arrangement is not so effective as where there is consolidation. There are two points upon which I consider the funds are greatly injured; the one is the expense of Acts of Parliament, the other is the high rate of interest at present paid for turnpike securities. If by any means from the suggestion of the honourable Chairman, Government could be induced to issue Exchequer bills for the purpose of enabling the trustees to pay off their debt, by which the rate of interest could be reduced to 3 or 3½ per cent., a very large fund might by such means be established; but I do not consider it would be politic to allow the Government to take possession of the tolls for the payment of the principal. So long as the interest is paid half-yearly, and the sinking fund duly appropriated, I should consider the Government should not have any power or authority to interfere with the funds. I am of opinion if the Government was the sole mortgagee of turnpike roads, the charge made against the trustees of some districts of borrowing money on the credit of the tolls to forward their own private views, and not for the benefit of the public at large, would not then be entertained.

1222. Supposing the law remained as it is now, and the statute duty and contribution totally abstracted from the turnpike roads, do you consider that you would be able to keep the roads, for which you are concerned, in sufficient repair without them?—Not unless some other fund is constituted, or the trust is relieved from some other expense.

1223. Have you ever turned your mind to any substitute?—The only substitution that has occurred to me, as being attainable without positive loss, is the borrowing money from Government at a lower rate of interest, enabling the trustees to reduce the amount which they at present pay. The trustees over the whole district for which I am concerned are paying five per cent., without any exception. I have here a return of the statute duty and contribution on the fourth district in the county of Montgomery, for one year; the estimated value of the statute duty is 1,873*l.*, the composition and contributions apportioned by the magistrates on the same districts amounted in that year to 1,178*l.*, making altogether 3,052*l.*; I see the expenditure in repairs in money, exclusive of the value of the statute duty upon that district, was in that year 3,629*l.* We keep a separate account in all our districts of the expenditure in repairs, and any improvement, be it ever so trivial which is carried into execution.

1224. The statute duty amounts to one-half of the repairs of the road?—The value of the statute duty then amounted to one-half of the expenditure in money on the surface repairs. The amount expended in those districts on improvements in

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in that year was 13,956*l.*, and the distance in miles is 383; the debt on those districts is 62,063*l.*; if the interest upon that debt can be reduced 1 ½ per cent., it would amount to 930*l.* I do not consider the statute duty, although estimated at the amount I have stated, practically and positively to be worth more than two-thirds of its estimated value; it is not always so efficiently performed as when the carriage is done by hire under a contract according to distance.

1225. Mr. *Fleming.*] Is that sum of money paid by the occupiers of land?—No; the statute duty is done in kind; that is, the value of that duty is done by team labour by the occupiers of land within the townships. With the general improved state of the roads, if the reduction in interest to the amouut I have suggested could take place, I think, as far as I am practically concerned, I should then be able to carry on the repairs of the roads, and keep them in the state they are at present.

1226. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] You think that reduction of interest would enable you to keep the roads in repair without the statute duty or without composition?—I have no hesitation in saying so, inasmuch as every year I have been concerned (and I have now been engaged on those roads for 16 or 18 years) the amount of statute duty, and the amount of contribution, have been regularly reduced, until in one district there is no composition allowed at all, when there used to be a very large sum, and the sum which has been expended on general repairs has annually been decreasing, unless under some peculiar local circumstances.

1227. Then those roads on which no debt exists can be kept well in repair, without either statute duty or composition?—I know of no road but where there is a mortgage debt.

1228. That is in your district?—Yes.

1229. Do you consider if there were any of these roads without any debt, you would be able to keep them in repair without statute duty or composition?—I have no hesitation in saying so; we might not be able to carry on so many improvements, but we have invariably expended our surplus fund, which has been considerable, in improvements. As far as my opinion of statute duty and composition goes, it would be one of the greatest possible reliefs to the agricultural interest in the neighbourhood for which I am concerned, if that was abolished; it has always been my opinion that the proper remedy for supplying the fund for repairing the road should be by toll or by a general tax.

1230. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Does the statute duty go on now?—No, we cannot go any further.

1231. Then what do you mean by the statute duty being abolished?—There is a Bill now before The House, to collect all the arrears; and in Mr. Fox Maule's Bill there is a power given to the magistrates to apportion a part of the rate to turnpike roads. I do not know of any other system by which so great a relief could be obtained, without a positive loss, as that of reducing the rate of interest. To show further the anxiety of the gentlemen in the neighbourhood to promote improvements, within this last week I have been instrumental in borrowing 5,000*l.* for new lines of road and improvements upon the districts in Montgomeryshire, where the personal security of the gentlemen in the neighbourhood is given as a collateral security with the bonds of the trustees, and the money is now borrowed at four per pent; the one per cent being appropriated to form a sinking fund in addition to that which the Act of Parliament obliges the trustees to appropriate. That I have done within this week; and I have the individual securities of the parties to give with the bonds of the mortgagees. I am perfectly satisfied (having heard it from each of the parties with whom I have communicated) they would not do that in the event of the management, under any circumstances, being taken out of their own hands.

Mr. *Robert Pitcher,* called in; and Examined.

Mr. *Robert Pitcher.*

1232. *Chairman.*] WHERE do you reside?—No. 1, Stangate-place, Lambeth.

1233. What are you by profession?—A collector of turnpike tolls.

1234. Are you on your account a collector, or are you employed by any one?—I have always been employed for the last 25 years.

1235. By whom?—By several lessees of tolls; there are many lessees that I work for.

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1236. On what road are you chiefly collector?—All the roads out of the metropolis.

1237. Now, can you form any idea of the profits made by the lessees of the tolls per cent.?—I cannot answer to that, but I know it must be wonderful, for the lessees have all sprung from nothing since I have known them.

1238. You cannot form an idea as to the per-centage on the year's receipts which they gain?—No, that is out of my power, the speculation is so great.

1239. Assuming that 1,000*l.* a year were paid by the public at any particular tollgate in the course of the year, how much out of that do you suppose is pocketed by the lessees?—It is according to what trust it is on, and as to the rent of it. They have a method of taking the contract at their own money; it is understood among the bidders before they go who shall have the contract, and what they term a knock-out is always given to stop the biddings.

1240. Do you mean to say the public are excluded from bidding?—It is always a public auction, posted sometime previous to the letting according to the Act; and it is a free auction for any one, but there are never fresh faces; they are always the same over and over again.

1241. By what means do they exclude the competition of the public?—They are not excluded; anybody may walk into the room, though nobody ever ventures to bid; but the lessees, who understand the renting of tolls, and those who have been in the habit of renting and farming of tolls for many years; we never see a stranger bid, unless he is put on to bid by some of the lessees.

1242. You have just now stated in your answer that the lessees make great profits?—Wonderful.

1243. If that is the case, why should not other individuals interfere and try to participate in those profits?—They are so unacquainted with it, they do not understand the nature of it; it is a secret among the lessees, and an understood thing previously to going before the commissioners.

1244. Do you mean to insinuate there is any collusion between them and the commissioners?—Not with the commissioners, but there is among themselves; they have particular ways of blinding the eyes of the trustees at the time of the letting.

1245. You have stated enormous profits are made by the lessees of these tolls; you state this is a matter of notoriety; if these profits are made, what is to prevent *A.*, *B.*, *C.* or *D.*, individuals who must be aware these profits are made by the lessees, from coming forward at the time of bidding, and themselves bidding to participate in these profits?—When they do come forward and make a bidding, they are generally stopped, for somebody is put into the room for the express purpose of calling them away, and they are to have so much money for not bidding.

1246. Then there is a regular system of collusion among all the lessees of the turnpike trusts about this metropolis?—Yes, and has been for these 30 years.

1247. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Are not the managers of the turnpike aware of this combination?—I believe that most trustees now at the present day pretty well understand that it is so. I have heard the clerks of the trustees make the remark that they pretty well understood one another.

1248. *Chairman.*] Have the trustees any means of obviating that?—They are bound to knock it down to the best bidder; and if he is not ready with his surety, according to the general Act, they must put them up again; so that, in many instances, a person is engaged by the lessees, for the purpose of running up the biddings, who never intends to take to it, but it is knocked down to him; that is done on purpose to blind the eyes of the trustees.

1249. Mr. *Walter Long.*] If so much money is made by these lessees, would it not answer for the trustees to keep the gates in their own hands?—That is the very thing that ought to be done. I will show the Committee presently the robbery that exists on all trusts when they are let to farm.

1250. Do you happen to be acquainted with other trusts?—All the metropolitan roads.

1251. Are there not trusts where the trustees have had the management in their own hands, when they have not been able to make much by them?—Because the public have not probably been extorted on so much on that road; when the trustees take it in their own hands they will not suffer their men to rob the public; but when they are let to farm, the spirit of opposition is so great at the present day (the great lessees having left off giving money away,) that they are knocked down

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at so great a rent that the lessees' men cannot bring the money in without extorting on the public.

1252. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Do they over-charge?—Wonderfully; many hundreds a year.

1253. Is there not a table of tolls at every gate?—Yes.

1254. *Chairman.*] How do you say there is extortion on the public?—By charging more than they ought.

1255. Mr. *Walter Long.*] Do you allude more particularly to the metropolitan trusts?—The consolidated trust all north of the Thames. There is as much extortion on the metropolitan gates, where they are consolidated, and more, than on those that are not.

1256. *Chairman.*] You stated to the Committee, when the trustees held gates themselves instead of letting them on leases, the reason why they do not gain so much is that their servants do not make use of so much extortion on the public as the lessees do?—Yes; they are not allowed to do so.

1257. Is there not another cause; may they not be cheated by their servants; and that the whole amount collected may not be paid to the trustees?—None of the collectors are sworn to their accounts; but it is generally supposed when they work for the trustees that they are not so severely looked after.

1258. What security have the trustees that the toll-collectors, who are their servants, will give them the amount collected?—When the commissioners have them in their own hands, there is no particular sum to fetch up, but when they are let to farm there is the lessee having his rent to pay.

1259. You stated just now that you thought one of the reasons why the tolls were not so productive when the trustees kept them in their own hands was that the toll-collectors they employed were not guilty of those extortions on the public which the servants of the lessees were; but the question asked you is, may not another cause of the collection not being so productive in the hands of the trustees be that they may be cheated by their servants, the toll-collectors, whom they employ?—That may be in consequence of their not being sworn to their accounts.

1260. What means have the trustees of checking their toll-collectors?—None whatever. It is not like the case of a bridge; but the roads are better managed when in the hands of trustees than they are when they are in the hands of the lessees, because the lessees generally give so much money for them that they cannot actually make it up without extortion.

1261. Is there not a little variance in the two statements you have made; you have stated, in the first part of the examination, you consider the profits of the lessee to be very great; now you state they give so high a rate for the gates, that if they did not extort from the public they could not make it answer. Do you mean, then, to say the whole of their profits arise from extortion on the public now?—The latter statement I have made only refers to what has occurred lately, since the lessees have declined buying off the other bidders.

1262. Mr. *Walter Long.*] Do you know of any instance where the sum of 4*d.* only ought to be taken that 5*d.* or 6*d.* is demanded?—It has been done very recently. The Hackney-road bar has been in the habit of taking 3*d.* a horse when the toll was only 2*d.* for some years. I went to Barclay's brewhouse and told them of it, and it was taken off. They have always been in the habit, on different roads, of taking more than the legal toll.

1263. *Chairman.*] Do you speak with certainty when you say that the lessees take more money from the public than they are entitled to do by law?—All of them.

1264. Assuming the public paying tolls at any one gate with which you are acquainted, say 3,000*l.*, in the course of the year, what do you suppose is the profit made by the lessee under such circumstances?—That I cannot say.

1265. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Have you ever made any calculation on any particular trust that goes out of London?—I do not know of any under those circumstances; but I think I know of a trust where there are six gates, where 24,000*l.* is paid by the public, and I should think the lessee makes a profit out of that of 1,000*l.*

1266. Mr. *Fleming.*] Do you know the amount of rent they pay for that?—Upwards of 24,000*l.*

1267. What do they receive from the public?—I should think they get 1,000*l.* a year by the trust.

 1268. Then

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1268. Then they receive 25,000*l.* a year, do they?—Yes, and that is after the expense of collecting; after everything.

1269. Have you ever considered what per-centage the lessees ought to get for collecting the tolls?—No, I have not.

1270. Have you anything further to add?—Nothing more than to show the extortion about town, and the manner the public have been imposed upon.

Mr. *James Brook*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *James Brook.*

1271. *Chairman.*] WHERE do you reside?—At Leeds.

1272. Are you extensively connected with roads?—I have been a commissioner of roads about 30 years.

1273. In that district?—In the East, West and North Riding of Yorkshire, and into Lancashire.

1274. You have turned your attention towards the establishment of turnpike tolls and trusts throughout the country?—I have.

1275. Have you directed your view towards the eligibility of substituting some other mode for the collection of tolls than that now in use?—I have not.

1276. Have you directed your attention towards the eligibility of consolidating the management of trusts, and the tolls of trusts?—We have had several meetings of the different trustees in the neighbourhood of Leeds within these last few weeks; many of the mortgagees were very much alarmed at this Consolidation Trust Bill being in progress; the Bill that was in print last year they seemed to be satisfied with, in a great measure, inasmuch as it would give them the option of receiving their money prior to the trusts being consolidated. Since that, each of the clerks in Leeds received some communication, and the clerks had a meeting among themselves; the trustees were called together in consequence of that by the clerks, and those gentlemen who had money on the trusts felt great alarm upon the subject.

1277. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] What did the alarm arise from?—On the Leeds and Otley road we met last week; the debt on that road is 1,700*l.* or thereabout, and the tolls produce that, consequently that is a good security for the mortgagees. The fear was, it would be consolidated with another, which was not so good a trust.

1278. *Chairman.*] With a poor trust?—Yes; the debt on that road is 1,700*l.*, and if it were to be consolidated with one of 17,000*l.* debt, there was cause of alarm.

1279. Their idea was, if your trust, which was solvent, was consolidated with one that was insolvent, then it would injure the security of the mortgagees?—Yes.

1280. Then why was the Bill introduced last year more agreeable to them than the one in the present year?—Because they supposed from that Bill that before the commissioners would consolidate the good and bad trusts together, they would give the mortgagees the option of receiving the monies they had lent on the trust.

1281. Did the mortgagees, who had advanced money on bad security, imagine that they would be paid in full?—Every one expected from the Bill that was in print last year that they would have the option of receiving it in full.

1282. Which they see by the present Bill they are not likely to obtain?—They have not seen the printed Bill, but they have seen a printed form, which gives the idea that they would not have the option of receiving the money.

1283. You have stated these mortgagees, in all cases, expected to receive the full amount of their money advanced?—They did.

1284. Is it a fair thing for a man who advances his money on an insolvent trust to expect to receive the whole amount?—You cannot get any one to advance the money on a trust of that description.

1285. Has it not been done?—They have not supposed it an insolvent trust at the time.

1286. Do I understand you to be of opinion that those individuals who have become mortgagees of the funds of the trusts which are now become insolvent ought to be paid in full the amount which they have advanced?—If they do not receive the full amount they have advanced, they would not wish it to be consolidated with any other, although it would be rather to their advantage. The mortgagees are generally trustees, and they had an idea they would not have the management

nagement over the roads in laying out the money that they would provided that Bill passed.

1287. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Have you ever turned your attention to any means of compromise for the amount of debt that was on those insolvent trusts?—Where mortgagees have advanced money, there have been instances where a man has become a bankrupt who had a mortgage on tolls; that is, generally sold by auction with the other effects; it depends, in a great measure, what price it will rise to, upon those who come to bid, because a person who invests money in that way invariably receives five per cent. I only know one instance where four per cent. was paid.

1288. The trustees are not sufficiently rich to purchase up those mortgages at a reduced rate, are they?—I should think they would not attempt it; there are great numbers, in the neighbourhood of Leeds, of gentlemen, who have advanced 500*l.*, 1,000*l.*, 300*l.* and 200*l.* to carry a road into action, and who have no property on the line, but have done it from public and patriotic motives.

1289. Is not that a gift?—No, I never knew a gift; they advance it on the security of the tolls; there are instances where people have advanced money to carry a road into effect that would be a great public advantage, and they have done it on patriotic motives only; and, in such cases, I would not lend myself to ask those gentlemen to take less than 20*s.* in the pound.

1290. I understood you to say they were put up to auction?—Yes.

1291. Do they fetch at that auction 20*s.* in the pound?—They have fetched 20*s.*, and they have fetched 70 and 80 and 90 per cent.; it depends on whether there are persons wanting to invest money; if he can receive five per cent., he judges in regard to the debt that is on the road, and he acts accordingly.

1292. For mortgagees who have advanced their money, perhaps for their own advantage, to a certain trust, and that trust has become absolutely insolvent, would it be equity or justice in them to expect to be paid in full the amount they had advanced?—Things might arise subsequently; it might have become insolvent, when it was not at the time they advanced it; the trustees under that Act could not conscientiously ask them to take less.

1293. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] How can you find a purchaser at auction at the rate of 20*s.* in the pound, when the debt is due by an insolvent body?—My answer had not reference on that occasion to an insolvent trust. The case where it sold for 20*s.* was the case of the Wakefield road, where the receipt is upwards of 4,000*l.*, and there is not 10,000*l.* debt upon it.

1294. Mr. *Walter Long.*] Is there any sinking fund on that trust?—Not that I am aware of.

1295. *Chairman.*] Here is an occurrence which has taken place in Yorkshire; a trust has an income of 30*l.* a year, and has managed to borrow 10,000*l.* on this income; now I ask you if you were one of the individuals who had advanced part of this 10,000*l.* to this trust, having an income of 30*l.* a year, whether you could in reason or justice expect you would have your money repaid to you in full?—I should not expect it; but I should suppose that those people who have advanced under those circumstances would be people who had property the line of road might go through; I have known a great deal of jobbing where a person has an estate near, and where a road was a great acquisition to that estate.

1296. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] And therefore, although he is not repaid the sum of money that he has lent on that road, yet he is in fact repaid by the great convenience and advantage that it is to his estate?—Clearly; I should think the man who would advance money on such security as that, would receive it in that way.

1297. *Chairman.*] Then you agree that man ought to be satisfied with the composition for his debt?—Clearly he ought; he receives it either one way or the other.

1298. Have you anything further to state with regard to the consolidation of the trusts?—No.

1299. With regard to the collecting of tolls, do you consider great abuse exists in the collecting of tolls, either in the loss to the trustees or to the profits made by the lessees, or in the expense of collecting generally?—I should say that when the tolls are let, the parties who have had the tolls the year before, or that year during the time of letting, who are in possession, know the value of them, and what they are worth by the year, better than any other person, but when they come to the letting, the present taker wishing to become the future taker, he buys

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other people off, gives them a sum of money, and says, "if you will not bid I will give you 10*l.*, if you will not I will give you 20*l.*," that is the mode they are bought off then; and that is done in the presence of the trustees, but not in the hearing of them.

1300. Then you think great collusion exists among the lessees in taking the tolls?—In many instances a great deal does.

1301. To the injury of the trustees?—Why, sometimes it is to the injury, and sometimes it is not. We had a circumstance only last week or the week before, when the tolls were put up to let in the usual way; a man who had taken them, and who is in possession of them now, said, "Well, I shall not bid; I have lost 300*l.* by them;" after that, a man who was a great toll taker, said, "Gentlemen, you have the power of letting by private, if there is no advance on the bidding of what they were let for the present year, I will give 5*l.* more than what you are now getting;" we let them for 5*l.* more in the face of the man, saying he had lost 300*l.* by them, or would lose this year.

1302. Can you form an idea, on a general principle, what loss is incurred by the trustees or by the public in the present system of collecting a revenue from the roads by toll?—My opinion is, if it was my own private property, I would rather let them than keep them in my own hands as trustee.

1303. Do you think the trustees are imposed on by their servants, or in what way do they lose their money?—I never knew an instance where we realized more from tolls by keeping them in our own hands; we always realize more when we let them.

1304. How do you account for that?—I cannot tell.

1305. Do you consider the profits of the lessee of the tolls are very considerable?—It is impossible for any one to tell that, except the taker.

1306. What is your opinion on the subject?—My opinion is, that many of them get a great deal of money by taking tolls, and a great many have become beggars; I have seen instances of both; I have seen very great takers who have been reduced to paupers, and I have seen others get to affluence.

Jovis, 9° die Junii, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Mackinnon.	Mr. Childers.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	Mr. Long.
Mr. Walker.	Mr. Ormsby Gore.
Mr. Chalmers.	

WILLIAM A. MACKINNON, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

Henry Angelo, Esq., called in; and Examined.

Henry Angelo, Esq.

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1307. *Chairman.*] HAVE you at all considered, or can you give the Committee any information with regard to the eligibility, or to the possibility, if it has come under your knowledge, of establishing anything like a highway police for the roads of the kingdom from the employment of labourers or milemen?—I understand a plan was acted upon about 20 years since at Bayswater for a cottage to be built, which was to be inhabited by a man either as a Greenwich or Chelsea pensioner; the idea was, that he should keep the road in repair half a mile on each side of the cottage, and occasionally patrol at night. The road itself was very bad; the mile which was kept by this man was decidedly the best part of the road; the cottage now stands, called the 24-mile house, two miles on this side of Bagshot; the house still remains, and it was written upon, the 24-mile house.

1308. During the time that plan was acted on, it answered perfectly?—So far as I was informed; the idea was, that in case of any accident happening on the road, you were always within half a mile of assistance.

1309. Mr. *Long.*] Were there any others established?—It was only upon that single piece of road, because there was the expense of building the cottage, but the idea was that they should have a small piece of ground applotted to

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to them. It was just after the battle of Waterloo, and it was thought it might be a good provision for pensioners from either of the hospitals.

1310. *Chairman.*] You stated that piece of road was in better condition than the other?—Decidedly.

1311. Do you think it was from his having the entire care of the road?—Exactly; he had small quantities of material on each side of the road, it hardened, and the man had a barrow to put it wherever the water lodged.

1312. So that keeping it under his superintendence, he had it constantly under his view?—Yes; and had the plan been continued to a greater extent, there would have been emulation between the men to keep their miles in repair.

1313. By the work of one man it was attended to; whereas now, as you have promiscuous labourers, it is the interest of every man to shirk it?—I remember it was mentioned at that time that labourers came four or five miles, and they were tired and knocked up before they got to the spot; even a man with a wooden leg would answer the purpose; but the chief thing in keeping the road in repair was, having a small quantity of material ready to be put on, and its not being thrown down in such immense masses as it used to be.

1314. You think, both in point of keeping the road in repair and security of travellers, that arrangement was attended with advantage?—Yes, I understood it to be such.

1315. Can you at all state to the Committee why, in your opinion, it was discontinued?—I have not the least idea, for until by chance I mentioned the circumstance to one of the honourable Members, I had almost forgotten it.

1316. Is that the only instance of the establishment of milemen as policemen that has come under your knowledge?—It is. The road was decidedly better than the other part; in fact, it was the remark of everybody in the neighbourhood. When I went to inquire about it this morning, I was told that part of the road was always in capital repair.

1317. Mr. *Long.*] Do you know why it was discontinued?—No, I do not.

1318. *Chairman.*] Probably from the road surveyor not liking to make a sort of exception, or not making a different rule for one part of the road to another?—Possibly.

1319. From what you recollect, and what you have heard, such a system, if generally adopted, would be beneficial?—Certainly; not only keeping it in repair, but as a kind of police. I think the man ought to be strong enough to keep the road in repair, and take so many hours duty at night. I should conceive there are a vast number of pensioners, both from the army and navy, who would be glad of that sort of thing, or in the different parishes you will find plenty of people. The worst part of it is, the expense of building the cottage. This is a very good small brick house.

1320. What do you suppose would be the expense of building it?—I do not know. This is a regular small brick house, with an allotment of ground to the right and the left hand, to grow some potatoes or cabbages.

1321. Are you totally unacquainted with the reason why it was first established?—It was an experiment, I believe.

1322. It was not to provide for the individual?—That was one of the advantages held out. I have been trying, since I received a letter to attend this Committee, to find a Bagshot person, who could give me more information about it, but I have not been able to do so.

Thomas Penson, Esq. called in; and Examined.

T. Penson, Esq.

1323. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] AS you have had experience with regard to the consolidation of the trusts in the Montgomeryshire district, will you be kind enough to give the Committee any information upon the best system of consolidating trusts?—There were portions of road within the county of Montgomery which did not form any part of the Act of Parliament which had been before obtained for the several districts of that county, and upon the last Act being solicited, it was considered expedient that the whole of the roads should be consolidated, and that those roads which formed portions of other Acts of Parliament, and which formed insulated portions within the county of Montgomery, should, in so far as those portions were concerned, be withdrawn from the other Acts, which were consequently repealed as far as regarded those roads which are

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now attached to the Montgomeryshire Act. Those roads were so circumstanced that they could not conveniently be attached to any one individual district, but were subdivided and attached to one or other of the four districts, according to the convenience and locality. I was instructed by the committees which were then appointed for each district to prepare a statement of the amount of debts, the distances and the average expense of repairs which had been incurred upon these individual portions of road, as well as the general expenditure of the district formerly comprised under the Montgomery Act; and I was also instructed to prepare what, in my judgment, would be a fair scheme to propose to the several committees as to the subdivision of those debts, and of the amount which the portions of those extra roads which were to be attached to one or other of the Montgomery districts should bear. I did so; and each of the four districts became charged with a portion of those roads, as also with a portion of the debt upon those extra roads. The mortgagees have been perfectly satisfied, and the trustees were, previous to the Act of Parliament being passed, pleased to express their approbation, and recommend the arrangement to be carried into effect, which was done under our last Act of Parliament.

1324. Mr. *Childers.*] Do you remember what is the smallest amount per cent. that any mortgagee has received?—In consequence of that consolidation, and in consequence of taking the income of that portion of the road to be attached to any individual district, each mortgagee stands now a mortgagee upon the whole of the district to which he is attached for the full amount of his mortgage; and although there were small portions of these districts which were poor, yet by the better arrangement the tolls have been increased, no injury has been done to the general trust, and every individual creditor now receives five per cent. for his money, which he did not do regularly before.

1325. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Then this is a complete bonus to the poor trust; it was a re-establishment of their solvency?—It was a perfect re-establishment of their solvency, inasmuch as the arrangement was so much better, that an increase of tolls has taken place in every instance where those portions of road have been attached to either of the districts.

1326. Mr. *Childers.*] But if instead of giving them the whole of their 100*l.*, you had only given them their proportion which their mortgages at that time were, would you not have been enabled to have relieved the country by lowering the tolls?—The proportions of extra roads were so small, when compared with the general trust with which they became consolidated, that I do not think that could have been carried on to any extent, and there might have been an opposition, which it was greatly the object of the parties who were interested in the consolidation to prevent. There might have been opposition to their carrying their intentions into effect, which might have been fatal to the Bill in Parliament.

1327. Can you state, from your recollection, what sort of sum the mortgage was which was thus taken by the consolidated trust from the trusts?—Probably the whole amount of mortgages of the poor trusts did not exceed from 4,000*l.* to 5,000*l.*, and they became incorporated with trusts the mortgages of which were upwards of 60,000*l.*

1328. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Do I understand you right that the construction of the evidence you have given is, that by joining the poor trusts with the rich trusts, the arrangement of your check-gates, and the arrangement of the manner in which they have taken the tolls, have enabled you to pay the full amount of interest that could be demanded by the poor trust, which they had not received before?—Yes, that is the fact.

1329. Mr. *Walker.*] Does the saving arise more from better management, or from increase of toll?—There is an increase of toll; but I look upon it that the uniformity of management and reduction of expense of officers has greatly tended to the economy of repairs and bettering the condition of the security.

Lunæ, 20° die Junii, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Mackinnon.	Mr. Walter Long.
Lord Viscount Lowther.	Lord Viscount Clive.
Mr. Ormsby Gore.	Mr. Childers.
Mr. Roche.	Mr. Walker.
Colonel Rushbrooke.	Mr. Evans.

WILLIAM A. MACKINNON, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

Sir *James M'Adam*, called in; and Examined.

Sir *J. M'Adam.*

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1330. *Chairman.*] HAVE you directed your attention to the eligibility of substituting some other mode of raising a revenue for the maintenance of the roads than that collected by toll?—Looking at the subject of the turnpike roads in the year 1836, with a debt of nearly 90,00,000 *l.*, and a revenue of a million and three-quarters, I am not prepared to state any other source from whence it would be practicable to raise an income for the maintenance of the roads, and the payment of the interest of that large bonded debt. Were the subject of a revenue for the repair of roads to be considered for the first time now, it might be matter of doubt whether tolls would be the most expedient and economical mode of raising a revenue; but I fear that in the present state of things relating to the turnpike trusts, it is too late to consider that question, and that in order to arrive at any alteration of system the turnpike trusts, together with the expenditure, must be put into better order and economy, and reform introduced.

1331. Your answer, then, goes to this; that it would not be advisable to alter the present system, but if you were to establish a new system you would recommend not raising the revenue by tolls?—I am really not prepared to go the whole length of the answer to that question, by a single word, but I am quite of opinion that it is not practicable at the present time to alter the system of a revenue by tolls, for the repair of the roads and payment of the interest on the bonded debt.

1332. Your answer goes to the difficulties at present, but not to the point whether the system of raising money by tolls is a desirable one or not?—It is an inconvenient mode to the public, certainly; at the same time, it is perhaps a just mode that those who use and wear a road should pay for it.

1333. Is it not an expensive mode of raising the revenue?—We are of opinion that in many instances we receive as much for the tolls as they are fully worth.

1334. You mean deducting the expense of collecting?—I mean deducting the expense of collecting.

1335. Do not you consider the expense of collecting considerable?—It is; at the same time, there are few taxes that are not attended with some expense in collection.

1336. To the best of your knowledge and experience, what would you say was the gross amount per cent. paid for collecting the tolls?—That is an extremely difficult question to answer: the receipt at a gate, if the traffic be large, occupies but one person's time and attention, and nearly the same expense is incurred at a gate where the receipt is comparatively small, and it is very difficult to give a general estimate of the rate per cent. at which the toll revenue of the kingdom is collected. About London it is very small; in a more distant part of the country, where the receipt at the gates is small, it must, of course, bear a much larger proportion.

1337. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Have you any grounds for stating the average of that expense?—The toll collectors receive generally at the rate of *25 s.* per week; and I should think, round London, the expense of collection does not exceed 2 ½ per cent.; in the country it must be, of course, much more considerable.

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1338. Lord *Lowther.*] At the smaller gates in the country the men generally carry on some other business or trade, do they not?—They do so; there are many ways in which it is done.

1339. *Chairman.*] You have stated that the debt upon roads amounts to nearly 9,000,000 *l.*, and the revenue to a million and three quarters, and certainly, as you state, great difficulty arises from any change of system. But supposing that the Government, at the recommendation of the Legislature, were to take upon themselves to substitute some other mode of revenue for the maintenance of the roads than that by toll, were to set apart a certain fund for the liquidation of those debts, which might be done at perhaps one half of the whole value, so many of the trusts being, not quite insolvent, but in very bad circumstances, and consequently a sort of compounding for the debt would take place; is it your opinion, supposing that another mode were substituted by the Government, under the sanction of the Legislature, and that a sum of money were set apart, say 5,000,000 *l.*, for the payment of those debts, such a system would be beneficial to the general management of the roads, and also satisfactory to the creditors on the different trusts?—There is no doubt that were such a state of things to take place it would ultimately be attended with great benefit to the trusts, and especially to the creditors, and in the end to the public; but it is impossible for me to conceive that the Government could be a party to such an arrangement. A great portion of the debt has had no interest paid upon it for many years; it arises from gentlemen being desirous of making roads for the improvement of their estates; and many of those bonds are for money lent, which probably at the time was hardly expected ever to be repaid; and looking throughout the kingdom at the state of the bonded debt upon each road, I think it would be unfair to ask the Government, and through them the public, to become parties to the payment of such debts.

1340. Could not that difficulty be obviated by the same system being pursued that is pursued in bankruptcy, in proportion to the chance of principal and interest being repaid to the creditors by the trust, in that proportion the sum of money advanced by Government for the purpose of liquidating the debts might be apportioned in a general per-centage?—That would be an equitable arrangement, but the Honourable Chairman must be aware that a turnpike bond is a debt for a specific sum of money; that most of these bonds are old instruments, many of them held by trustees and guardians for minors, who cannot part with them for less than the original sum, together with all the interest that may be due thereon; that no forced composition could take place on such debts, it being, I believe, contrary to the spirit of the law to compel any party to part with any security for less than he might consider it worth. It is for that reason that in the Bill before the House of Commons now for the consolidation of the roads of the kingdom it is taken on a three-fold principle: one, the consolidation of the trusts of the kingdom and the funds thereof; next, the consolidation of the roads and the management, without affecting the funds at all; there was also another proposition, which enabled all holders of turnpike bonds, either for themselves or other parties, to compound such debts and become parties in any consolidation they might choose, but that is a matter which must be left at all times to the will and pleasure and discretion of the parties holding such securities.

1341. Do you imagine that there would be any difficulty in compounding with such creditors if an Act of Parliament empowered them to receive the money, on the principle that many persons would rather take a composition for a bad debt than run the risk of having none at all?—I fear it is a principle inherent in human nature, that the moment we have any prospect of being paid for a bad security which has lain by many years, the difficulty of compounding increases instead of being diminished; and I hesitate not to say, that the value of all turnpike securities, in consequence of that Bill being introduced, has very much increased of late.

1342. That principle is fatal to any course of consolidating the funds of trusts?—I think not; for it is no part of the plan proposed to be established under that Bill to make the payment of the securities compulsory, and I am of opinion that the creditors holding bad securities would soon learn that there was no hope of their being benefited for such a security unless they took a reasonable and fair composition.

1343. Assuming that such a system was to take place, and fair and reasonable

able composition was made in most of the trusts of the kingdom, would there be subsequently any difficulty in paying off the remainder of the debts and establishing a new system?—The Honourable Chairman, I presume, alludes to Government advancing money for the payment of debts, otherwise they must come out of the saving of toll money.

1344. The first question assumed an advance by Government of, say 5,000,000 *l.*, for payment of all the existing debts?—Supposing Government had made such an advance, I presume Government would require the security of the tolls for the repayment, in common with any party advancing, or does the Honourable Chairman mean that the Government would make a present of that 5,000,000 *l.*?

1345. The question supposes that the 5,000,000*l.* might be held on the security of whatever other revenue was assigned by the Legislature for the purpose of maintaining the road?—In that case, certainly the public would be relieved from the annoyance of turnpike tolls.

1346. Do you think that the system if it is allowed to go on in the present way would get from bad to worse, arguing by analogy, seeing how the debts have increased under the several trusts, and how little chance there is of their being paid off?—The debts of the roads of the kingdom have regularly increased for many years past, and I am decidedly of opinion that so great a revenue as a million and three quarters, with a bonded debt of nearly 9,000,000*l.*, ought to be placed under some most efficient control, in order to prevent its increase; indeed, to go further, in order to its liquidation and proper arrangement and management.

1347. Will the present system of making railroads throughout the country injure the revenues of many roads?—I certainly am of opinion that many roads will suffer very severely by the introduction of railroads, and that was one of the most striking reasons for recommending the consolidating of turnpike trusts. Individuals may hold a turnpike security on a particular road, which will be seriously affected by the establishment of railroads in the country, to the general benefit of the country; and it is rather hard that an individual trust should suffer so severely. Were a consolidation of those roads to take place, the individual would have the increased security of the whole of the roads, and they would all suffer or be benefited in the same proportion.

1348. You are of opinion that a legislative enactment of some kind or other is imperatively demanded for the country for those interested in the trusts?—Certainly, for the trusts themselves as well as the public.

1349. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] In the answer you have given as to railways, you allude to branch roads supporting the main road that is injured by machinery passing along it?—I do.

1350. Lord *Lowther.*] Do you know any road that has been injured by a railway on the line?—I have reason to believe that the income of the road between Manchester and Liverpool has been reduced nearly two-thirds.

1351. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] If that trust was consolidated with the additional roads that run into it, that would prevent the injury done to that special trust?—Exactly so; that is my opinion.

1352. Mr. *Roche.*] How do you account for the credit being given to those trusts, if they appear in so deficient a state in respect of payment?—There are a great many roads that are in most excellent state as to debt, and have very little bonded debt upon them; upon many of those the debts are increasing by improvements taking place.

1353. Lord *Lowther.*] Have there not been a good many new roads made, and great improvements effected within the last 10 or 15 years?—There have.

1354. Mr. *Childers.*] Supposing in consequence of this consolidation those debts should be compounded for, do you see in that case any objection to the substitution of a different system for tolls?—I see no other objection than the difficulty of prevailing upon Government to substitute a tax in lieu of toll.

1355. Lord *Lowther.*] Do you think a million of money would keep the roads in England in the state of repair they are at present, and allow for improvements to go on?—By returns made up to the year 1834, the income of the roads appears to be 1,753,544*l.*; that includes statute labour.

1356. How much do you suppose is actually appropriated to team labour and the expense of materials?—I think a million of money, independent of the

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interest of the debt and all other matters, would maintain the roads of the kingdom.

1357. Allowing for necessary improvements as opportunities occured?—I am hardly prepared to include improvements.

1358. Mr. *Childers.*] Do not you think that would lead to as great difficulties in the expenditure of money as in the raising of it?—I never contemplated taking the charge of the roads out of the hands of the country gentlemen as local trustees. I think they can never be placed anywhere with so much advantage.

1359. In case of any general tax being laid, how would you apportion the fund raised by the tax?—That must be done with some reference to the particular part of the road and the expense of maintaining it, on estimates from competent authorities.

1360. Do not you think that would present almost insuperable difficulties?—I think that would be attended with very great difficulty, particularly with relation to improvements.

1361. Do not you think there must still be a power to people making new roads as there is at present?—I think that it would stop the formation of all new roads, which generally commence in private interest, convenience and other local circumstances.

1362. *Chairman.*] Do you think if the Government were to advance any given sum, say four or five millions, and assign a revenue of a million a year, that would do away the necessity of all tolls throughout the kingdom, and statute labour and composition labour, and rates of every description?—I think a sum of about a million would, as I have stated before, keep the roads in a good state of repair, of course not including interest, but assuming all the debts to be discharged.

1363. Mr. *O. Gore.*] Do you approve of the system of consolidation of trusts, but only so far as may be consistent with their still remaining under the control and management of the gentlemen of the country?—Precisely so. I should recommend the consolidation of all trusts within certain circles in the first instance, where the security would be good, and where the public or private individuals would pay the debt and take security upon the existing tolls when consolidated.

1364. What do you consider would be a sufficient extent for a consolidated trust, taking a central point and running a radius from it?—I consider a trust of 100 miles in extent, with a diameter of 25 or 30 miles, would be the most expedient and advantageous; but in forming consolidations we should be obliged to take the roads as we find them, and, in some cases, the extent of a particular line might be inconvenient.

1364*. That is 100 miles of actual road, radiating from a centre?—Yes; I answer that question with reference to the power of a surveyor on horseback to superintend.

1365. *Chairman.*] You are decidedly of opinion that a consolidation of trusts is a desirable object, under the superintendence of the country gentlemen?—I am quite of opinion that the only method of introducing order, economy and regularity into the turnpike affairs of the kingdom, is by the formation of a commission of control or superintendence in London as a centre, and forming all local consolidations throughout the kingdom, where possible.

1366. Lord *Lowther.*] In consolidating, it must necessarily follow you would consolidate bankrupt roads with prosperous ones; in what manner would you regulate the debts of those trusts?—That point is considered and provided for in the Bill before the House of Commons now, and I have already stated to the Honourable Committee that it proceeds upon three principles, the consolidation of the roads, the management and the funds.

1367. What power will there be to enforce a person to make a composition?—I have already answered that question. There is no power to enforce a composition; the only power to produce a composition is a provision that any party so refusing to compound shall be left out of consolidations, and until he was disposed to accept a fair and reasonable accommodation he would not receive the benefit of the plan.

1368. Guardians would not be allowed to make composition for infants?—They have the power given them in the Bill.

1369. *Chairman.*] Do you think a consolidation of management alone, independent

pendent of the consolidation of the funds, is possible?—I am quite of opinion that a consolidation of management should take place, keeping each road account precisely as the trustees at present keep that account.

1370. Mr. *Childers.*] Is it not proposed by this Bill to consolidate the management of some roads of which the funds would not be consolidated?—There is a power in the Bill so to consolidate.

1371. Mr. *O. Gore.*] You were understood to give an opinion in favour of a consolidation with a controlling board in London; do you not think that the controlling board in London would clash considerably with the administration of the resident gentlemen?—My opinion is, that the board should be more a board of appeal than a board of control; that it should not be necessary for the board in London to originate any one act of themselves; that the management of the consolidation should be left entirely undisturbed in the hands of the trustees of such consolidation; and that the board in London should only have the power of interfering, as commissioners of the poor laws have a right to do, where it is found and deemed absolutely necessary.

1372. Mr. *Childers.*] You mentioned that a consolidation should be as far as one surveyor on horseback could look over; do you think it undesirable to have more that one surveyor over a consolidation?—By no means; if it were found desirable to form a consolidation of an extent greater than one surveyor could with economy superintend, I should then appoint two or three, as circumstances might be.

1373. In that case, you would not consider it necessary to restrict it to 100 miles?—No; and the Honourable Member will be aware that in speaking of a circle of 100 miles, in many cases there will be six times the quantity of miles of turnpike road within such a circle that there would be in another place.

1374. In the case of trusts of great extent, such as the road from London into Surrey and Sussex, and such as the Holyhead road, would you propose to divide those trusts?—The Holyhead road is a consolidation only from Shrewsbury to Bangor, all the rest are separate trusts, though under the direction of the trustees. The Holyhead road have a general inspector, a surveyor and a resident inspector. There would be some incovenience at times arise from a trust extending a great way; in forming general consolidations that must be submitted to, or the roads transferred to another consolidation.

1375. *Chairman.*] You are decidedly of opinion that a consolidation of trusts, both as to the management and the funds, would be desirable?—I am.

1376. Do you think that if a Bill were brought in, merely giving leave to several trusts to consolidate themselves and their funds if they thought proper, that would be a Bill more palatable to the country than the Bill lately brought in?—It would certainly be a much milder measure, but I should doubt whether it would be at all acted on.

1377. Has it not been acted on in the Metropolitan district?—That was a measure of compulsion.

1378. Mr. *Childers.*] Would not you say in a consolidation the diameter would to a certain degree be regulated by the vicinity of great towns; that each great town should be the centre of the roads in its neighbourhood; and that where great towns were at a distance, the diameter should be greater than where they are near?—I would recommend, in the first instance, that roads leading out of great towns and cities should be formed into consolidations, and probably the diameter would be more guided by the residence of trustees and gentlemen who would attend to them, than any other circumstance.

1379. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] What would be the sort of control the board of London would exercise over the boards in the country?—I have already answered that question in some measure; I would recommend the board in London to be a perfect board of appeal only, where it was feared that something wrong had taken place in the consolidation or the management of it.

1380. Mr. *Childers.*] Would not you consider that one great part of the duty of this commission would be to arrange the extent of the consolidations?—That would be the principal work and object of the commission to form all such consolidations.

1381. That work would be executive and not one of appeal?—Yes; but having formed such consolidation, to leave the operations within the consolidation entirely in the hands of the local trustees of each consolidation, the same as the roads are now.

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1382. Mr. *O. Gore.*] You have given these opinions upon the ground of a trust being consolidated under the same surveyor and the same body of trustees?—Certainly under one body of trustees; the surveyor would, as I have stated, depend much upon the extent of the miles of such consolidation.

1383. Do you not conceive a consolidation of trusts might take place where a surveyor might undertake the superintendence of a larger extent of country under different boards of trustees?—In some parts of the country where the thoroughfare is small, and the revenues of the trust of course small also, the extent over which a surveyor could manage would be very considerable, and might with economy be made so. I would rather have one very competent surveyor over a large extent, than three inefficient surveyors over three small ones; and I think the great injury to roads has been the limited extent of the surveyor's duties, and the class of persons that have been appointed road surveyors.

1384. *Chairman.*] Do you recommend, in the event of the Bill before Parliament not being carried in the present session, a Bill of a milder description at a future period, by which is meant a Bill empowering a consolidation of the trusts and funds and the management of the trusts, provided the parties were so inclined?—I fear such a bill would not be acted on throughout the kingdom at large; there is a great degree of jealousy between two trusts; many of them are lateral trusts, leading to the same town; and I fear that the interests of all the officers being opposed to the consolidation would operate, as in the present instance in the Bill before the House, to prevent such a Bill taking effect.

1385. You are surveyor of the Metropolitan roads?—I am.

1386. What is the present state and condition of those roads?—The Metropolitan roads have now formed a consolidation for 10 years. When the Bill first took effect they were in a very deplorable state, some repaired with flints, but chiefly with local gravel. One of the great objects the commissioners had in view upon the Metropolitan roads was the substitution of better materials for their repair and maintenance. At the present time there are upwards of 35 miles of granite roads within the Metropolis commission; broken flint has been substituted for gravel, and where any local gravel still remains in use, the larger parts only are taken, broken and used; so that in making a return of the reduction of debt on the Metropolis roads, which has been lately done, to the House of Commons, it should also be considered that in addition to a great reduction of bonded debt, from 127,000*l.* to 88,000*l.*, including the floating debt, there is 35 miles of granite road, which cannot be estimated at less than 1,000*l.* a mile, taken together, with the general improvement of the whole of the remainder. The roads are worth at the present time a very large sum of money more than they were when the commission was formed.

1387. Have you formed an estimate of the amount of increase in value?—I should think they were worth 50,000*l.* more than they were the day the measure took place; that it would require 50,000*l.* to put them into the state they now are, compared with what they were.

1388. Are the roads comprised in the Metropolitan trust all that were originally intended to be included in the Act?—No, they are only a portion of the roads on the north side of the Thames; the original Bill contemplated including the roads on the south of the Thames, as well as the Whitechapel road in Essex.

1389. Why were those originally intended not included?—I believe there was a difficulty in carrying the Act of Consolidation for a greater number of those roads than took place; a noble Lord present is aware that as much was done at that time as was practicable, and that it was, I might almost say, a sort of compromise that the other roads should be left out.

1390. You have made an abstract of the turnpike roads for 1834, which is presented to the House, and printed; does any particular circumstance present itself in the corespondence that took place with those several trusts that you can state to the Committee?—I received the commands of the Secretary of State to prepare an abstract of the returns for the year 1834. being the first returns that ever were made for one complete year, from one period to another, namely, the 1st of January to the 31st of December; those returns have been printed by the House of Commons. The correspondence which necessarily took place with the clerks of the trusts to procure those returns shows the absolute necessity

necessity of some controlling power to introduce and enforce order and regularity in keeping the turnpike accounts. I would mention one or two instances: The Breckfâ trust, in Carmarthenshire, the reply was, no letter having been received, that the clerk was dead, that the whole money of the tolls was lost, and that no account existed by which any annual statement could be made out of that road, and that it invariably was repaired by the parishes.

1391. Lord *Lowther.*] Who gave you this information?—Some relation of the clerk answered for him; the letters are in the Secretary of State's Office. Upon the Whorlton and Staindrop road, in Durham, no return has been obtained; I cannot learn any reason why we were obliged to close the returns without it, after a lengthened correspondence, which is stated in the returns. In Herefordshire, on the Ross road, no return for 1834; the accounts were not settled by the end of the year 1835; the same with the Acle and Yarmouth road, in Norfolk. In Northamptonshire, upon the Buckingham and Brackley, and Towcester and Brackley, the returns for 1834 were not sent until January 1836, and then not signed by any chairman. Many trusts neglected to send returns until applied to, many months after the time appointed by the Act, in which a penalty is imposed on the clerk if they are not transmitted within a certain time. Upon a road in Northumberland, between Newcastle-on-Tyne and Carlisle, I observed there was no balance either in the treasurer's hands, or due to him. Mr. Pearson is the clerk. I wrote to inquire the reason, when it appeared that the sum of 2,307 *l.* 9 *s.* was in the treasurer's hands on the 1st of January, that he died insolvent, and that such balance was entirely omitted in the return to Parliament, there having been no security taken by the trustees from the treasurer, as required by the Act. From Alfreton to Derby, a sum of 254 *l.* was due from the late treasurer, who had become bankrupt, without security; and a great many similar instances have taken place. In Yorkshire, upon the Lees and Hebden Bridge road, which is entirely repaired by the parishes, no interest of the debt had ever been paid, the bonded debt being 9,822 *l.*, and the interest due upon it the precise sum of the original bonded debt, making together 19,644 *l.* The tolls are only 187 *l.* a year, but they have managed to reserve in the treasurer's hands 204 *l.* for the renewal of the Act; a measure rendered unnecessary by the Act continuing all Turnpike Acts for three years. The Leeds and Homefield Lane trust, about a mile and a quarter in length, has 18,000 *l.* of bonded debt, the toll, 625 *l.* per annum; that road has been repaired by the parishes from its original formation, no part of the toll revenue having ever been applied in the repairs of that road. I would also mention that the correspondence with the trusts has shown, that notwithstanding the severe penalties imposed by the General Turnpike Acts, in many instances one person holds the joint offices of treasurer or surveyor and clerk, and surveyor and treasurer; in eleven instances only one person holds the joint offices of treasurer and surveyor, being liable to 100 *l.* penalty each time he acts. In addition to 133,000 *l.* statute duty paid, or work performed for it, 61 trusts are entirely supported by the parishes, and a great many other trusts in part. In 30 trusts the bonded debt amounts to 160,000 *l.*, the unpaid interest to 259,000 *l.*; in several instances no interest has ever been paid. In 12 trusts the tolls produce 3,790 *l.* a-year, the total debts 316,000 *l.* On the contrary, and it is with great pleasure I have to state it, upon the Foston trust, in Lincolnshire, they have no debt, and they have 7,000 *l.*, and have had for many years, in the treasurer's hands. I felt it my duty to write, and inquire whether the trustees had any object in holding so large a balance of the public money in their hands, and the clerk writes that the trustees have no particular object in holding this 7,000 *l.* I have only given these as a very few instances out of a vast number, to show that there is no regularity in keeping the turnpike accounts of the kingdom, and that a control of the funds of the trusts is, in my opinion, absolutely necessary.

1392. *Chairman.*] All these statements show the necessity for some further legislative enactment?—My opinion is decided upon that. I am of opinion that the Bill before the House of Commons, called "The Turnpike Consolidation Bill," is the best measure that can be offered for the improvement of the general system of the roads of the kingdom.

1393. Mr. *O. Gore.*] Does not that rather militate with the reply you gave to the question as to the interference of the Metropolitan board with the resident gentlemen?—I am not aware that any interference would necessarily

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take place of any description, except as I have mentioned, where it was deemed absolutely necessary from the circumstance of something wrong having taken place.

1394. You would state that it ought to be a board merely of appeal in cases of error or misconduct?—That is my opinion.

1395. Mr. *Childers.*] The Metropolitan roads do not extend nearly so far as you have been recommending the consolidation?—About that distance; there were 129 miles of extent in some instances, 14 miles from the common centre.

1396. Not in all cases, even to the north?—No.

1397. The whole way to Barnet is not within the consolidation?—No, only to Hampstead; the Metropolitan roads consist of a great variety of roads about London, but some extend to Uxbridge.

1398. Why was it not extended to Barnet?—That road was already under the Holyhead Road Commission, and it was not felt necessary to place it under any other control.

1399. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] You think that the Metropolitan board should have the superintendence of the financial department?—I am of opinion that the board in London ought to have a control over the finances of the roads to that effect and extent given to the proposed commissioners in the Bill I have referred to.

1400. Mr. *O. Gore.*] Is not that rather at variance with the opinion that they are to be merely a board of appeal?—I used the word 'appeal' as conveying to the Honourable Members my opinion that it might not be necessary for the board in London to act in any case, unless they deemed it absolutely necessary, not even in the case of finance; because when the commissioners in London have completed the consolidation, I would leave that consolidation in the hands of the new consolidated trustees as fully and unfettered as the roads exist at the present time.

1401. Any subsequent interference of the board in London must be upon their being referred to by some parties aggrieved either as to management or funds?—For any matter. I will state what I consider the principal evils of the present system of the trusts: I consider the principal and prominent evil is the number of the trusts; the expense of renewing the Acts; the amount of law charges; the number of officers, and the large amount of their salaries; the great number of toll-gates, made necessary by the number of trusts; the very unjust oppression of their situations; the high rate of tolls; the great amount of bonded debt, and the high rate of interest, being 4½ per cent. on an average throughout the kingdom; it is in truth five, but in a few instances it is under five, which breaks down the fraction; the necessity of paying the interest with the toll revenue, and leaving the burden of maintaining the roads upon the parishes; the total absence of all control over the power of trustees to expend money and involve trusts; the want of check and authority to compel clerks to keep regular, correct and just accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the roads; the employment of incompetent, unskilful and inefficient persons as surveyors. I should propose as remedies the consolidation of trusts. There are 1,108 in the kingdom, which I think might in time be reduced to 300 or 400; there would be a consequent reduction of local Acts, law-charges, salaries and rate of interest; it would be productive of equalization of the rate of toll, and a more just arrangement of the situation of the gates; it would be a relief to parishes, by not requiring the aid of statute labour; it would lead to complete and perfect control over the expenditure, just and correct accounts, skilful and competent officers, and an uniform system of repairs and management. I would also state to the Committee that there is a great variety in the application of the toll-monies of the kingdom. Upon the Farnborough road and some others the application stands thus: first, the expenses of the Act to be paid; secondly, the road to be repaired; thirdly, the interest of the debt to be paid; and fourthly, the principal money borrowed. Upon most roads the interest is to be paid first, the bonded debt second, and the road repaired third. Now, it is but just, in my opinion, that the ship should be kept in order that is to carry the freight.

1402. Mr. *Roche.*] You state that the number of gates was a great inconvenience; have they been much reduced in the district which has been consolidated?—They have been removed from the immediate neighbourhood of London in almost every instance.

1403. Have

1403. Have they been reduced in number?—They have been reduced in number also.

1404. Can you state how many gates there are at present?—I cannot from memory; they are stated in return before the House of Commons.

1405. There appear to be 84 now, being one to a mile and a half?—Many of them are sidebars; they appear to be great in number, but the principal gates across the main roads are only once in every seven miles; that is the principle, taking a halfpenny a mile.

1406. *Chairman.*] Allusion has been made in the examination before the Lords' Committee in 1833, to the possibility of establishing a highway police out of the milemen or labourers on the roads, the question not referring to a permanent system of police, but a sort of police for the detection of robberies, and so forth; have you turned you attention to that subject?—I have. When I was appointed surveyor of the Bagshot road, I think in the year 1817, I found the system of milemen had been established on that trust, and one or two of the milehouses still remain; I think the 24th milehouse is still perfect by the side of the road. We pursued the system, and do continue it up to the present day, upon the Staines road, from the powder-mill at Hounslow Heath to the Golden Farmer Hill, by Bagshot. That embraces two trusts. There are regular milemen appointed; each of them has charge of a mile, and to whom assistant labourers are given when necessary. These appointments take place, not with any view of police, but with a view to the improvement and economical management of the trust, and it has certainly been found to answer in every respect; and I am of opinion, that were that system generally adopted it would be attended with much benefit to the roads; and it might be possible that such men being made constables would be useful in a police point of view, though it may be apprehended that giving a man two employments might endanger his being useful in either.

1407. Do you think, or not, that it might be adopted as a system of prevention?—I think it would come in aid of any rural police system that might be generally adopted throughout the kingdom. Those men are generally much acquainted among their fellow-labourers, and are generally selected as respectable individuals, and we have practically found they have been very useful, both in detecting depredators and preventing crimes.

1408. Have any of them been sworn in as constables?—None of them have been sworn in as constables.

1409. But you have found them useful?—We have.

1410. Do you think that if you extended it and swore them in as constables, they might be made more useful?—They might; but I am afraid the system is at present too much in its infancy, and confined to too few roads, to be much felt.

1411. Do you think it might be made useful if it were extended?—I think it might.

1412. Admitting that such an establishment was formed, that of milemen or labourers on the road, there would be an additional payment to each man for being a sort of rural police?—We give the mile men 1 *s.* per week more than the common men whom they receive as assistant labourers.

1413. Do you think the additional sum of 1 *s.* would secure those men as policemen in case of need?—I am of opinion, that being respectable men, and the situation being worth retaining, they would be disposed to take that office if it was made part of their duty.

1414. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Do you mean 1 *s.* a week and a cottage?—There are not many cottages at present on the side of the road.

1415. Are they allowed those rent free?—No, they pay rent; the cottages are not the property of the trust.

1416. Mr. *Childers.*] What is the principle on which you establish those milemen?—It is supposed each mileman has a mile under his charge, his own mile, and once a year he receives a reward in proportion to the general good state that mile has been in during the year, and the small quantity of materials he has required to repair it; and to this mile-man additional assistance is given when scraping, and so on, is required, that renders him incapable of doing the necessary works.

1417. They have 1 *s.* a week more?—I should say, we intend them to receive 1 *s.* a week above the current wages of the country.

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1418. Do you think the road is kept in order at less expense in consequence?—On those two trusts the roads are kept in repair at a less expense than others, and those men consider it their duty to attend to the road on Sundays in case of thunderstorms, the drains requiring to be cleared.

1419. *Chairman.*] One objection which has been started is the inferior character of the men generally labouring on the roads; but your evidence goes to the appointment of men of rather a superior description?—We have endeavoured to select the most decent class of men we could find in the neighbourhood; and I have no reason to complain of the character or attention of the milemen on those two trusts.

1420. Lord *Lowther.*] Do you think it operates beneficially on other men wishing to become milemen?—It has that effect on the additional men sent to them, from whom the milemen are selected in case of vacancy. It is a great advantage also that the common labourer sent to the road has the advantage of being directed by men who are very skilful and competent to the task.

1421. Mr. *Childers.*] That is equally the case where they work in gangs, four or five together, is it not?—We do not adopt the system of having many men together where it can be possibly avoided. If after a dry season rain suddenly falls on the dust, like the Staines road and others, it becomes desirable that the road should be scraped with the least possible delay the next morning, it being of the greatest possible service to a road that the mud which has accumulated should be removed with as much dispatch as possible, to prevent the carriages licking up the road; if the men were in gangs, it would not be done so rapidly as if they were distributed throughout the road, and I think, generally speaking, where men are more distributed, they are apt to do more work. Some part of the road requires scraping with more dispatch than other parts, those places overshadowed by trees or walls; by the men being distributed, we get the worst parts of the road scraped first.

1422. Your general plan is that of placing men separate rather than in a body together?—Always; we prefer the separation.

1423. Those men you employ mostly at only ordinary wages?—Yes, without the system of milemen having been introduced.

1424. Does that require a closer superintendence on the part of the surveyor than the system of having men together?—I think it does; the surveyor's attention is necessarily directed to the whole road; in the working of the gangs he would be required to survey rather where a number of men were working together.

1425. Still you think you have made a sufficient calculation of one surveyor to 100 miles?—I think so.

1426. *Chairman.*] Assuming that the system of milemen or constables were adopted, would there be the expense of some additional pay to a superintendent over five or six of these men, or would the 1 *s.* each be sufficient?—One shilling a week is sufficient; there is no particular superintendent over them.

1427. Would not such a superintendent be necessary if they were organized as a police?—I think it would.

1428. In that case an additional expense would be incurred?—Yes.

1429. Do you think that on a road 20 miles long, with a force of 20 men, you might at the trifling expense of 1 *l.* or 25 *s.* a week, organize those men into a system of police?—There is no doubt it might be done.

1430. Mr. *Childers.*] At present you have no intermediate person between the milemen and the surveyor?—None.

1431. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] In that case you would have such a man answering the purpose of our sergeant of police in this Metropolis?—Yes.

1432. *Chairman.*] You admit the facility of such a system of police?—Yes.

1433. Will you have the goodness to state to the Committee your system of the formation of roads, and also give the reasons why they were so formed?—I consider the system that my father originally laid down for roads to consist in these particulars: I will first suppose a new road to be about to be formed. The principle is, that it is the native soil which really supports the weight of traffic; that while it is preserved in a dry state it will carry any weight without sinking; that it does in fact carry the road and the carriage also; that this native soil must previously be made quite dry, and a covering impenetrable to rain then placed over it to preserve the native soil in that dry state; that the thickness of a road should only be regulated by the quantity of material necessary

to

to form such impervious covering, and never by any reference to its own power of carrying weight; materials will of course last longer between a soft substance and a waggon-wheel than between a stony or rocky bottom and a waggon-wheel, and as a dry soft bottom will carry any weight without sinking, I should prefer a dry soft bottom to a pavement or a rock.

1434. Lord *Lowther.*] Have you seen any road formed or repaired on the principle laid down by the commissioners for the Holyhead road, with pavement for a foundation at the bottom?—I had an opportunity of seeing the Highgate Archway road repaired upon the principles recommended by the Holyhead road commissioners. That trust is in length a mile and 189 yards. The surface of the road was removed, and a paved bottom formed, consisting of bricks made of gravel and cement; upon the top of that paved bottom nine inches or a foot of broken granite was placed, The expense of the repair of that mile and 189 yards was 13,000 *l.*, as stated in the Holyhead Road Report of 1830.

1435. Was not that peculiar, from the situation of the place being distant from the stone?—I never had an opportunity of ascertaining the cost of any other road. That money was advanced by the Government, upon the calculation of 800 *l.* a year additional toll being received, which I believe has not been realized, as I observe the debt now is 15,262 *l.* by the accumulation of unpaid interest.

1436. Was the toll increased?—I should suppose not.

1437. Of the roads which come under your management which have the greatest traffic, have you any paved at the bottom?—No, I have no roads that have ever been paved at the bottom. I would beg to mention to the Committee the road in Parliament-street and the road at Whitehall, made of broken granite, about nine inches thick, which is laid upon the original ground. I observe in the report of the Holyhead road commissioners they state the thoroughfare through one of their gates near Bangor to be 22,206 horses in a twelvemonth, that is stated in the report of 1832. I had a very accurate account taken of the thoroughfare in Parliament-street, which gives 340 horses each quarter of an hour, taken from before and after 10 o'clock in the morning, which I considered a fair average of time; that gives 1,360 horses per hour. I take 15 hours instead of the 24, which gives 20,400 horses per day. I have taken 330 days instead of 365, deducting for the Sundays, which gives 6,732,000 horses in the year through Parliament-street, many days with most severe and heavy loads, the one road having a paved bottom, and the other being laid upon the natural soil.

1438. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] According to your position, you have stated that if there were a dry subsoil the native soil is the best foundation, and that whatever you lay upon that which is most impervious to wet is the best material?—Yes.

1439. Under those circumstances, you are an advocate probably for the bituminous road?—I have seen that on the Vauxhall line; I have not had an opportunity of looking at that at Kennington; it appears at Vauxhall to be very smooth and very good. I am not prepared to state how far that would last in a severe thoroughfare, but I observe the projector of that road is willing to undertake to maintain the road of a great thoroughfare at 3 *d.* per yard per annum; that price on the Uxbridge road would be 264 *l.* per mile per annum, taking the road at 12 yards wide. If that gentleman would maintain the Uxbridge road in a good state at that cost, it would be well worthy the consideration of the Metropolis commissioners to encourage him.

1440. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Has he given a statement of the first cost of laying his material?—I understand that his first cost is 3 *s.* 6 *d.* a yard; taking a road upon the same data, it would make 3,700 *l.* per mile.

1441. What does it cost you per mile upon that same road upon your principle of road-making?—I consider that to form a granite road on any portion of this road, four inches thick, would cost 1,760 *l.* per mile; the question then would be, whether the four inches of granite or the bitumen road would last the longest in good order.

1442. Lord *Lowther.*] On the subject of pavement at the bottom there is a general impression that roads not paved are wet and full of water; what is your experience? in opening roads to form drains in wet weather, have you found the water penetrate into the roads?—Supposing the original soil to be

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well and sufficiently drained and made dry, and a coating impervious to water having been laid upon it to form a road, I am of opinion that in the wettest winter if that road is pitted it will be found at the depth of an inch or an inch and a half as dry as in the middle of summer.

1443. Do you state that from theory, your own observation, or principle?—From having in a number of instances opened roads for a variety of purposes, and having tried it in various places under different circumstances. If the road in Regent-street, in the middle of winter after rain, were pitted in the solid part, it would not be found that the rain had penetrated above 1 ½ inch; I state that as the extreme depth.

1444. *Chairman.*] If it penetrated, that would show that road was not sound?—Yes, if it went deep; therefore the principle that my father laid down, and upon which himself and family have acted for the last 20 years, and which appears to have been universally adopted, is that which I have before stated, that the native soil, when dry, is capable of carrying any weight without sinking, and that the object of making a road is only to put a covering on that soil, to keep it dry, and to prevent rain-water passing through to make it wet.

1445. According to your statement, if a piece of copper or a piece of iron were laid upon the road, that would answer the same purpose?—Yes.

1446. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] What do you consider impenetrable as a coating?—I consider that nine, or even six inches of broken granite, united into one solid mass, by its own angles, from pressure, will be an impervious coating, and prevent the rain passing to the subsoil.

1447. Is it not apt to rub its angles away and become dusty?—That can take place only upon the top surface. I consider that most of the defects of the roads of the kingdom have arisen from the erroneous opinion that a road may be formed sufficiently strong, *artificially*, to carry heavy weights, by placing a large quantity of big stones under the road, to prevent its sinking into clay or other soft and wet subsoils, and by such means to avert the evils of the natural soil receiving water from rain; a very expensive operation, and in my opinion, supported by 20 years of experience upon upwards of 800 or 900 miles of road, totally unnecessary.

1448. Lord *Lowther.*] Have you any objection to the under-pavement beyond that of its original cost?—I think that the under-pavement is very liable to sink into the subsoil, because if the pressure of a waggon-wheel rests upon one single stone of this sub-pavement, it is more liable to press that single stone into the subsoil than when it rests on a mass of small broken stone; the moment the sub-pavement becomes pressed into an irregular surface bottom the top immediately becomes uneven, and the sub-pavement being generally placed on edge, is very apt to get displaced, allowing the water to pass through the materials on the top, by which the subsoil becomes wet.

1449. Mr. *Childers.*] What method would you take to drain the very wet clay?—I consider that the portion of ground on which any road is to be formed should always be raised, in some measure, above the adjacent ground and ditches, and other means of carrying off both the surface and the sub-water invariably adopted. Those measures, of course, must depend upon local circumstances; the knowledge and the skill of the surveyor, by rendering perfectly dry, in the first instance, the piece of ground on which the road is to be made, or upon which a road has been placed, are indispensable. That being done, all that is required is to keep such piece of ground perfectly dry by an impenetrable coat of materials, presenting as smooth a surface as possible for the wheels of carriages to pass over on the upper side.

1450. Lord *Lowther.*] Do you find that ditches on the sides of the roads, giving egress for the water, succeed in drying the undersoils?—I do; the roads in general not being above 30, 33, or 36 feet wide, two efficient ditches tend very much to draw off the water from the subsoil; when those ditches are not sufficient it is proper and necessary to place under drains.

1451. Is it not a most economical measure, in the making a new road, to have it well drained?—Certainly; all good principles of road-making require that to be done, and to that particular point the attention of the Commissioners of the Metropolis roads was, in their first operations, particularly directed; the noble Chairman of that commission himself, for the first year, from six in the morning, frequently paid detailed attention to the operation, and enforced the

the necessity of drainage, as the principle on which all good road-making is founded.

1452. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] Have you any choice whether the ditch or the bank should be next to the road?—In making new roads, I think it is desirable that the ditch should be outside of the footpath; the surface water may be always carried in small trunks, underneath the footpath, into the ditch. My reason for approving of that method is increased safety to the public in passing along a road; otherwise, merely in a road-making point of view, the nearer the ditch is to the road the better.

1453. Mr. *Childers.*] Do locomotive engines cause a great wear when used on turnpike roads?—I consider it would be a most fortunate and desirable circumstance for the benefit of the turnpike roads if steam carriages could be brought into general use upon them, inasmuch as we should lose that which does the greatest injury to the surface of a well-made road, the horses' feet; and I observe the wheels of such carriages are generally cylindrical, 4 ½ inches, or about that, in breadth; and I really think that such wheels running upon a well-made road do comparatively very little injury; and the expense of the roads with such carriages only would become extremely trivial.

1454. *Chairman.*] Are you enabled to give a statement to the Committee, showing the difference in respect of debt between the trusts in various parts of England, so as to enable them to form an opinion upon it?—In Derbyshire the debts amount to 13 times the annual amount of the toll revenue, viz. 413,820 *l.*, the toll revenue being 31,084 *l.* In the county of Essex the toll income is 29,178 *l.*, and the total bonded debts in that county 24,322 *l.* In Northumberland the amount of the debt is 10 times the amount of the toll income for the year. In Middlesex it is two years' income. In Devonshire it is 9 ½ times the amount of the annual toll income. In Hertfordshire it is 2 ½; but generally speaking, it is nearly six times the amount of the annual toll income. In Lincolnshire the debt amounts to 128,000 *l.*; the tolls amount to 28,000 *l.*; it is 4 ¾ times. In Montgomeryshire the debt amounts to 62,000 *l.*, and the income to 8,835*l.* being seven times the annual income.

1455. Do you find any connexion between the debt and the want of materials?—I cannot see any reason for such a great difference in the amount of the debt in one county compared with the amount in others.

1456. You can account for it only from the mismanagement of the trust?—Or the great improvements, or the necessity originally for the formation of new roads.

1457. Either from great improvement or great mismanagement?—Yes.

1458. In those counties where improvements have not taken place, the debt must have arisen from mismanagement?—Yes.

1459. That appears to be a further reason for legislative enactment?—Yes, and shows the great difficulty of providing for this immense debt, and the necessity of treating it in a very judicious manner at the beginning. I would have recommended six, or eight, or 12, of the principal cities, having a great many separate trusts diverging from them, being formed, in the first instance, into consolidations; they would show, in a very short time, the great advantages arising from such a measure, and you would have had all the other roads seeking consolidations, and not alarmed at their taking place; and I am quite sure, that looking at the establishment of so many railroads throughout the kingdom generally, the only chance the bonded creditors of the turnpike roads have for their debt being made good is consolidations generally taking place. It is quite true that by such a measure a great many officers will be displaced, and a great many persons will lose part, or the whole, of their income; but I hold that the public good must not be stopped by such considerations; and the Committee will perhaps think that I am giving disinterested advice when I state, that of all parties in the kingdom, I should myself be the greatest sufferer by such a measure.

1460. Supposing that an experiment were tried of doing away the system of raising a revenue by tolls, and substituting some other mode of consolidating the trusts and establishing a highway police in one small county, might not that be the best plan, in the first instance, so as to see how far it answered, with the power of repealing the Act at any given period if it were not found to answer successfully?—I confess I see great difficulties in doing away with the tolls, and however desirable it may be, I fear it is a measure that cannot take

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place in the present day; and therefore, though agreeing with the Honourable Chairman in the desirableness of trying any experiment in a moderate way at the beginning, I fear that a measure with that for a basis cannot be carried into effect. There is another objection to any measure for roads being made by a county. This applies in England more than in Wales; for roads in England run through several counties; and if the consolidation were to be on the principle of a county, you would have to cut a trust into two, which cannot be done, on account of the bonded debt: I believe this does not apply in Wales.

1461. Does not the same argument apply against a consolidation?—That will not affect consolidation, as the road would be taken entire, whether in one county, or more, at any reasonable distance. I have, by order of the Secretary of State, made some consolidations on paper to see how they would turn out, and I am of opinion, that taking the large cities and towns generally, they offer perfect and good security for the payment of the debt, which might be taken either by the public or the parties: they would readily take a new turnpike security upon the consolidation at four per cent.; and taking any one place, Stamford, in Lincolnshire, for instance, where five or six roads leave the market-place, and where, as I have given in evidence in another place, they hold five or six turnpike meetings in the same room at one time, having five or six clerks, five or six treasurers, and five or six surveyors, with one set of trustees, (for the same gentlemen are trustees, with the exception of one or two, generally on the whole of the roads,) I can see no reason why those five or six trusts out of Stamford should not be consolidated as the Stamford road: the renewal of the Acts would be saved, and a great deal of saving would take place also in the management of the roads and salaries of officers.

Jovis, 30° die Junii, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. William A. Mackinnon.	Sir Henry Parnell.
Mr. Ormsby Gore.	Colonel Fleming.
Mr. Chalmers.	Mr. Long.
Colonel Lowther.	

WILLIAM A. MACKINNON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

His Grace the Duke of *Richmond*, Examined.

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1462. *Chairman.*] WE have taken the liberty of requesting your Grace's attendance, as we are investigating the subject of legislation in regard to turnpike tolls and trusts; the object of the Committee has been of a threefold nature; the first is as to the elegibility or advantage of substituting some other revenue than that at present collected by tolls, for the maintenance of roads; the second point is the eligibility or desirableness of consolidating the turnpike trusts, both as to revenue and management, to a greater extent than at present; the third is the practicability of organizing the milemen or labourers on the road into a force something like a highway police, though it should not be permanent, as in this metropolis, but that it should be merely called into action in the event of any disturbance, or felony, or offence against the laws, being committed; so that these roadmen (supposing them to be of good character) might be called in to the assistance of the magistracy as occasional policemen. I take the liberty of requesting your Grace's attention to the first point mentioned, which is, whether or not, in your opinion, it would be desirable to substitute any other revenue than that collected by tolls for the maintenance of the roads?—I think it would be very desirable, if practicable; for you would get rid of turnpike-gates, which I consider to be a great nuisance; but I think it would be difficult to find a fund.

1463. Would your Grace have the kindness to state to the Committee, whether or not, in your opinion, it would be desirable to consolidate the trusts of various roads?—I think it would be most desirable, in every point of view; I think, if the trusts were consolidated, a very great saving of expense would take place.

1464. As

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1464. As this is a very important point for the country, would your Grace point out to the Committee, any manner in which the great difficulty which presents itself at present, of consolidating trusts which are not the same in their resources (that is, a poor trust with a rich trust), could in any manner be obviated?—The question is a difficult one to answer; it appears to me it would be most desirable to consolidate the trusts, and I think great economy and therefore a considerable saving would arise; but I think that in this case as in many others, we have only a choice of difficulties, and it appears to me if something is not speedily done, the whole concern must come to a crash; for by the evidence and returns before the Select Committee of the House of Lords, it appears, that every year the debt increases. It amounted then to about eight millions; it has increased since, I believe, and the expenditure exceeds the income. If this is allowed to continue, there must be a bankruptcy in half the turnpike trusts of the country. It appears to me, therefore, that Parliament must do something to arrest the evil, and that no time should be lost. The expense of management would be much diminished if the trusts were consolidated; the expense of buying materials also would be less; and, if added to that, you were to make the Acts of Parliament permanent, instead of for only for a term of years, a saving of expense would thereby arise. Under the present system a great many side-bars are put up, to the manifest injustice of the public; the trustees of one road erect a side-bar, because, they say, "We must catch this man here, or we shall not get for our trust any toll from him, as he will only return to the turnpike-road at a gate that does not belong to our trust." It appears to me also, that the unequal rate of the tolls is exceedingly unjust; and though I am not prepared to take from the local trustees the absolute management of the roads, yet I think every year's experience proves more and more clearly that the present control is not sufficient. The difficulty of getting accurate returns from the clerks of trusts, and the state of the funds, proves that something ought to be done. You will find in the returns of the county of Oxford, which I however admit is an extreme case; there is one road, St. Clement's; its income is 1,820*l.* 7*s.*; its expenditure, 2,023*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*; it has a debt of 15,864*l.* 15*s.*; and the length of that trust is only one mile, seven furlongs and thirty perches. I do not know any of the circumstances which may have led to this debt; but how are the creditors to be paid? Surely the trustees ought not to have been allowed to have borrowed so large a sum of money. I am not aware of the class of persons who advanced the money in this case; but I know that in many parts of the country that widows and persons of a very limited income lend their 50*l.*, or 100*l.*, to the trustees of the turnpikes, who are not aware of the bad security of many of the trusts. I think there ought to be some legislative enactment to secure a control generally over the expenditure of trustees, and more particularly to limit their power of borrowing. The Act of Parliament which prohibits a plurality of offices in the trust officers, is I fear but too often evaded; the same individual holds the offices of clerk and treasurer, and it is justified by saying that he does not receive any profit by holding the latter office, which is manifestly not the case. In short, there is no sufficient control.

1465. Alluding to the controlling power to which your Grace has alluded, is your Grace of opinion it would be desirable to have a board of control in London, to superintend the financial management of the trust, allowing gentlemen in the country to have the executive management of them; that is, having a control, a sort of superintendence over the financial department, allowing the country gentlemen to have the executive part of the business?—Yes. I should not give the gentlemen in London too much power; I should restrict them, but at the same time I should also restrict the trustees from spending too much money.

1466. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Did I understand your Grace rightly, that you would still leave the executive power in the hands of the gentlemen of the country, with the controlling power over a board in London, that board in London to stand between the Legislature and the gentlemen of the country, for the purpose of saving expenses that at present are incurred by going to Parliament continually for a renewal of the Act, and other purposes?—Certainly; I think great advantage would be derived by having such a control that the expenditure should be diminished, and also the rate of interest. Some of the richest trusts are those which now pay the largest rate of interest. If you were to make the

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security better, by making the Acts permanent, and by taking care that a proper and just economy was exercised, the money might be borrowed at a much less rate of interest.

1467. *Chairman.*] Your Grace was the Chairman of a Committee of the House of Lords on Turnpike Trusts in 1833?—I was.

1468. Has your Grace reason to believe that the bonded debts on the roads of the kingdom have increased of late years?—I believe so; and I think that they will continue to increase if some efficient control be not adopted.

1469. If I remember rightly, the Report of the Committee of which your Grace was Chairman, strongly recommended the consolidation of turnpike trusts; and it stated also that all the witnesses concurred in recommending that measure; does your Grace still continue of that opinion?—Yes, I continue of the same opinion.

1470. Is your Grace of opinion, that if the funds of the trusts of the kingdom were judiciously, skilfully and economically managed, that a considerable portion of statute labour, hitherto called forth from parishes in aid of the repairs, might be dispensed with?—Yes; and I have always thought that statute labour for turnpike roads was a great grievance, and that it was often resorted to when there was no necessity for it.

1471. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] Has your Grace, in turning your attention to the subject, considered that, if the debt of the roads were relieved from the interest now paid on that debt, it would be a substitute for the statute duty and composition?—Certainly; you are however, no doubt, aware that statute duty was repealed in the last session by a clause in the Highway Act.

1472. Does your Grace know whether the farmers felt it a matter of grievance to perform statute duty?—They considered it as a grievance to perform statute duty, unless indeed they were called upon to perform it when their land was too wet to employ their waggons on their farms, and then they did the roads perhaps more harm than if they had not carried any materials for their repair; when it was levied as a composition they disliked it, considering it a very unfair and an unequal tax.

1473. They would prefer paying a composition, rather than to turn out then?—I think they would have preferred performing statute duty, rather than paying the composition; I should myself prefer paying a composition, but I believe the farmers in general would not.

1474. To embrace two points, first, the getting rid of the gates, and also of the debt; did you ever turn in your mind if it was possible for a county to be consolidated into one trust?—I should think it quite possible, and perhaps expedient; but you must have some very efficient control over the expenditure of the money.

1475. *Chairman.*] Your Grace is decidedly of opinion legislative enactments are necessary, and that the sooner they are made the better?—Yes; I cannot conceive how it is possible for any concern to go on, if the expenditure every year exceeds the income.

1476. In the Committee of the House of Lords in 1833, of which your Grace was Chairman, the Report, which is made with regard to the milemen, says, that the milemen stationed on roads might be made somewhat of a civil force; does your Grace still continue of that opinion?—Yes; but there are not a great many roads, I believe, on which milemen are employed; I think they would be very efficient for purposes of that sort.

1477. Your Grace means, that if there were milemen on roads, and these milemen were employed as occasional policemen, it would be so much advantage to the country?—Yes; to aid the civil power in case of need.

1478. Colonel *Lowther.*] Is your Grace aware there are some counties in which the statute duty forms one half of the fund for the support of the road?—I have heard so.

1479. *Chairman.*] Your Grace is of opinion the experiment of one county might be tried; I wish to ask whether or not, in your opinion, the following plan might be adopted as an experiment: take any one given county, pay off the debt in that county, whatever that may be, at a fair composition, according to what you might pay of a bankrupt's estate; do away with the tollgates altogether; raise some other revenue than that collected by tolls, either by a rate on houses or by some other means; then apply this revenue so raised to the maintenance of the roads; consolidate the management and the

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the funds of the trust, which you would have no difficulty in doing, and try the experiment in any one given county for two or three years, to see how it would work, previously to making it a general measure: do you think that might be done?—It might certainly be tried in one county, but it would depend very much on what property you levied the rate; I should not think it fair or right to levy the rate on cottages of small value.

1480. Not on houses under 10*l.*?—No; I think in the county of Sussex, the expenditure for one year ending Michaelmas 1829, was 42,706*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, and the income 42,586*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, being 120*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* expenditure above the income; in 23 trusts the income exceeded the expenditure, but in 26 trusts the expenditure exceeded the income: and the debt amounted then to 278,981*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*; the number of miles of turnpike road being 636 miles; how is it possible without some great change that that debt can be paid off?

1481. Colonel *Lowther*.] There have been a great many improvements going on in Sussex, have there not?—I am not aware.

1482. Mr. *Ormsby Gore*.] In reference to your last answer, do you not conceive a county would be too large an extent for a consolidation, and that districts would be more desirable?—If turnpike-gates are to be continued, I agree with Sir James M'Adam's opinion, as stated to the Committee of the House of Lords, that the trusts should be consolidated into stars of 25 miles radius.

1483. Colonel *Rushbrooke*.] Would you propose a rate to be on houses?—Not on houses of small value.

1484. Why at all on houses?—I would not exclude large houses or gentlemen's houses.

1485. Why, upon principle, should it be upon houses?—The occupiers are benefited by the roads, and use them more with their horses, carriages and carts, than the occupiers of small cottages; I think it is desirable to get rid of turnpikes if it can be done, but I own I do not at this moment see that it is practicable.

1486. Sir *H. Parnell*.] Does your Grace say you do not think it practicable to substitute a system of rates instead of tolls?—Yes, it is practicable to substitute a rate instead of tolls; but it is difficult to know how to get rid of above 8,000,000*l.* of debt.

1487. Do you think it likely that any commissioners appointed to manage the roads, and to levy the funds by rates, would levy such rates sufficiently large in extent as to keep the great public roads in proper repair?—You might compel them by legislative enactment.

1488. But, in making a change in the law, would it not depend on the law working itself, rather than by any compulsory process?—It was compulsory, for you forced a parish to pay statute duty to a turnpike, and the parish had no means of controlling the expenditure of the trustees.

1489. At present, parish roads are under a system of repair by rates, are they not?—The highways are.

1490. Has that system succeeded as a general system of management?—The new Act has only lately come into operation; there has hardly been time to know whether it has succeeded or not.

1491. The reason of that Bill being introduced was, I believe, the failure of the existing system up to that period?—The law required reform; a great change took place in the appointment of the surveyors, the collecting the rates, the power of uniting parishes together, and in closing and diverting footpaths.

1492. Is it reasonable to expect that local commissioners will levy on themselves and their labourers such a large amount of rate, as is absolutely necessary to keep a great public road in repair, along which road a greater portion of the travellers are strangers, so that the interest of strangers is much greater than that of the neighbourhood?—I do not admit that the interest of strangers is so great as that of the neighbourhood; I conceive nothing benefits an estate so much as having good roads.

1493. Taking the travellers from London to Barnet, what proportion would you say were strangers to the county, or connected with the neighbourhood of that road?—That road is, I believe, under the Holyhead commission.

1494. Take the road from Hounslow to Salt-hill?—I submit it is hardly a fair question, but I should say the land-owners and occupiers on that road, and the market-gardeners, are very much interested in having a good road to take their produce to market, and to bring back manure.

1495. At present 79,000*l.* are levied as tolls by the Commissioners of the Metropolis

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Metropolis Roads; suppose all tollgates removed, do you suppose that the local commissioners, who would be substituted for the present commissioners, with power to repair these roads by rates, would voluntarily levy on the district through which these roads pass 79,000*l.* a year?—I am no judge of the neighbourhood of London; but if you ask me whether local commissioners or trustees would levy money, I should only refer you to the poor laws under the old system, where you will find the local authorities levied about three times as much as they ought to have done.

1496. Are not the cases very different; was not that under some species of compulsion?—That may have been the case within the last few years, but not 10 or 20 years ago. I think that if the trustees were properly appointed, I should have no fear. I believe they would levy as much as they thought fit for the repair of the roads. I hope they would not levy as much as is now levied, as I think much is squandered.

1497. Is there anything unfair in making travellers pay a toll for the use of the road?—I do not think there is anything unfair; but I think it desirable, if possible, to get rid of tolls, and the turnpike-gates which detain travellers, and the expense of collecting the toll is expensive.

1498. You take into consideration the results; does it not happen that the result of tolls is a state of roads very superior to what the result would be if roads were repaired by rates?—I do not know that. I have never seen in the county with which I am connected any indisposition to levy money for any purpose of public benefit. I never heard complaints of the amount of rates levied for the improvement of the prisons; I have heard objections against the county rate, on other items, but not as to that part which they believe to be necessary, and of public utility.

1499. In cases of great and necessary improvements, such as lowering hills, and shortening roads, which would incur the expense of several thousand pounds, is it probable that local commissioners would provide such large sums by laying on rates?—Do the trustees not do so now? they borrow large sums of money; the interest must be paid; and the parish have heretofore been forced to pay statute duty.

1500. Is not the money borrowed on the security that the tolls will be paid by persons who use these roads?—Yes; but would not the money be borrowed just the same on the security of the rate.

1501. The question is, whether the commissioners would raise additional rates, so as to afford that security?—I think they would. I do not say they would raise 10,000*l.* for a road, but they would borrow 10,000*l.*, if absolutely necessary, on the rate, to be paid off in 25 years or 30 years, as the guardians now do for the erection of workhouses.

1502. Looking at the interest that local commissioners can have in a road passing through a district, is it probable they would borrow 10,000*l.* or 20,000*l.* merely for the benefit of the general travellers on the road?—I think they have done it too much, or else we should not now have above eight millions of debt.

1503. With turnpike trusts a stranger travelling pays the toll; but that is different from a local commissioner levying rates, and not levying tolls?—I think it is the interest of the local commissioners to make their roads as good as possible. It is the interest of every tradesman in the towns to induce as many persons as they can to travel and to come into their towns.

1504. How does it happen that the system of parish roads, up to a recent period, has so completely failed, when the management was left to vestries, and the repairs to rates?—If that system has failed to the extent the honourable Member is of opinion it has, it is always to be borne in mind that large sums of money have been raised under the head of highway-rate, much of which has been expended, not for the purpose of repairing the roads, but to give employment to the poor, and thereby relieve the poor-rates. The parish roads should be consolidated, so that an efficient surveyor might be appointed to each district.

1505. Has the general average of the amount of the rate levied by the parishes to repair the roads been sufficiently high to secure good roads in the parishes of England?—I can only speak of the neighbourhood in which I reside, and there the parish roads are quite as good as the turnpike roads. There are only two turnpike roads, and the highways are as good.

1506. You have abundance of materials?—Yes, we have. From Chichester

to

to Arundel the road is not turnpike, and it is better than the road from London to Barnet.

1507. How are the parish roads now in the clay counties?—I believe they are tolerably good; some are not so, of course; but where there is much traffic the roads are good, I believe.

1508. Colonel *Lowther*.] Have not county magistrates, and other persons, raised money by the county-rate to construct bridges?—Yes.

1509. There has been no difficulty in doing that?—No, not that I am aware of.

1510. Has your Grace ever looked into the details of the receipt of the tolls to see this, that on market-days there is 100 per cent. more collected in all parts of England at the tollgates than any other day of the week?—I believe there is a great increase on those days. I should wish not to be understood as giving an opinion that the rate ought to be levied for all the roads by the magistrates alone; I think there ought to be other persons joined with them, for the purpose of making that rate.

1511. Mr. *Ormsby Gore*.] As to this line of examination, will you allow me to ask, do you not conceive the substitution of a different mode of raising money, in lieu of the present turnpike tolls, would be a considerable reduction in the expenses incident to the repair of roads?—Yes, I do.

1512. Why are the highway roads not in as good repair as the turnpike roads; does your Grace imagine, that they being used by individuals immediately connected therewith, any presentation of the road might prevent their having been brought before proper authorities to force them to keep them in repair?—There was extreme difficulty and expense in presenting roads at the quarter sessions, and individuals did not like to take proceedings against their friend or neighbour.

1513. Which may be remedied when all the roads of the district come under the same arrangement?—Yes; I understand there have been some roads presented in the Weald of Sussex, in consequence of the increased facility given by the new Highway Act.

1514. Has not your Grace found the highways in Sussex very much improved of late years?—Yes, and many of them cannot be better roads.

1515. *Chairman*.] In reference to one question put to you, it was stated that 79,000 *l*. a year was collected round the metropolis by tolls, and the honourable Member wished to know from your Grace, how such a revenue could be supplied; in your Grace's opinion, would it not be very easy, or would it scarcely be felt by this great metropolis, either by a rate upon houses, or in whatever other mode they chose to levy a tax, with such a population and wealth, would it not be so lightly felt, as scarcely to be thought anything?—I am hardly able to answer that question. I do not know how the rates are levied at the present moment for the repair of the streets of London, where no toll is now levied.

1516. Assuming this expenditure for the road to be levied by a rate on houses, or a tax on those horses and carts used for luxury, of which there are so many in this town, is it not your opinion such a tax would be very lightly felt in such a population as this metropolis?—I would rather confine my answers to the country, as I do not know anything respecting London. I do not believe a rate on a county would be satisfactory, unless some of the rate-payers had a voice on the subject. I should object to leaving to the magistrates the sole power of levying rate for the repair of all the roads.

1517. Colonel *Rushbrooke*.] What was the ground on which you prefer rating the county, and saddling the county with the entire expense of roads which are constructed on it, rather than by some other mode by which the public in general continue to support them?—I did not give a decided opinion in favour of rating the county; I was asked if I thought it would be practicable; I said, I thought it would, provided that the rate-payers have a voice upon the subject.

1518. But they will be only contributors to the expense of the road; the county will be saddled with the entire expense of the road, for the great convenience of the public; however it may be desirable for all those bordering on the road to have them, still the great mass of the public travelling those roads, will do that without any contribution whatever, and it will become in the nature of a land-tax?—The Sussex farmer would gain when he or his produce went into Surrey, and the Surrey men would have the like advantage.

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1519. The idle part of the community would travel gratis, the pleasure part of the community?—The pleasure part of the community who travel, are a benefit to a county; the people who go to Brighton are a great benefit to Sussex.

1520. *In transitu* they do not do much good to the intermediate stations?—Not so much, perhaps, but it would be of great advantage to the county of Sussex to get rid of its debt, that must be done first; then I think we could repair our roads, but we must exercise much greater economy than the trustees have. It is quite astonishing that the people of England have permitted the present system so long to continue, by which many of the trusts are now insolvent.

1521. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Does there exist no means of controlling a turnpike trust in law?—I am not lawyer enough to answer that question, but I believe it is very difficult, and that they are under no control.

1522. Let them do what they may, they may do it with perfect impunity?—I believe so.

1523. That is not the case with other trusts?—And ought not to be with them.

1524. Would it not be wise to provide some legislative remedy, affording the means of preventing or punishing gross impropriety of conduct?—I believe many of the abuses have arisen from carelessness, and I think it is quite necessary that there should be some control over all the trusts of the kingdom.

1525. Is your Grace aware, by an Irish Act of Parliament, the road from Dublin to Limerick was vested in certain persons as a company, and that the Act vesting it in them gave a power to the parties to apply by petition to the Court of Chancery, in case of misconduct, with power to the court to supersede the company, and put it into the possession of the commissioners; would not something of that kind be feasible as to turnpike trusts?—I am not aware of the Act, but if you once got a road into Chancery, I fear it would there remain; I should prefer the control which has been suggested.

1526. If a body of trusts really conducted themselves in the way you intimated they have in this country, would not the proper remedy be to supersede them, and put others in their place?—You might find difficulty in finding others; much of the abuse may have arisen from carelessness, and, in some instances, from a desire to afford employment for the labourers; but they have borrowed too much money. Parliament has also been, in my opinion, much to blame. You force the trusts, be they rich or be they poor, to renew their Acts every 21 years (it used to be); the consequence was, that some of the trusts expended nearly a year's income in paying the expense of that renewal; formerly, you made them pay considerable fees for the payment of the officers of both Houses of Parliament, which is now, I believe, paid out of the Consolidated Fund.

1527. Lord *Lowther.*] Did you ever think of defining the powers this board in London should be authorized to have?—I should only give them a controlling power.

1528. But this controlling power, what would you limit it to, what executive powers?—I would not allow any trusts in the country to borrow above the amount of three years of their income; the commissioners should not have the power of permitting them to do so.

1529. To borrow money?—Not beyond three years' income.

1530. Would you give them the power to limit improvements?—I think they should send an estimate of all proposed improvements.

1531. If they send up a confused and unsatisfactory account of the expenditure to this board, what authority would you give them to call them to account?—I should call upon the trustees to dismiss the clerk if he was non-efficient; if they refused to do so, the board ought, in certain cases, to have the power of doing so.

1532. Among the numerous boards, you would find some that would be refractory, and act against the advice of this board in London; what would you do with them?—I would impose penalties upon them. My proposal would be, to consolidate the trusts into stars; to call upon the trustees of each road to elect a committee every year; these committees should form the board for the local management of the roads so consolidated, but they should be under the control of the board in London; for I fear that it would be useless to alter the law unless you take care that its provisions shall be obeyed.

1533. *Chairman.*]

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1533. *Chairman.*] I will just state to your Grace the outline that was suggested when the Committee was formed, taking into consideration the amount of the debt for Great Britain, and assuming it to be 9,000,000*l.*; assuming that the expense of the money collected and expended, both in the maintenance of roads and the payment of the interest of that debt, amounted to 1,500,000*l.* a year; supposing that the Legislature took upon itself the payment of this debt, it has been imagined that this debt might be paid by a composition from about 2,000,000*l.* to 3,000,000*l.*; it has been imagined, therefore, when that was done, that the remainder of the amount required for the maintenance of the road would be only 1,000,000*l.*, for then you might strike off 500,000*l.*, the interest of nearly 9,000,000*l.* of debt; in that case nothing would remain more than to raise a revenue in the country at large of 1,000,000*l.* for the general management of the roads; that you might consolidate with great facility the trusts in the manner your Grace has mentioned, and might have a controlling power in London, and an executive power in the country by country gentlemen, and establish by that means what your Grace seems to recommend in your Report, namely, a highway police; and that you would avoid all the inconvenience and annoyance that now result from the collection, and have a more economical way of laying out the public money for the public, instead of having wrested from them in a vexatious manner an income of more than 1,500,000*l.* by tolls; the public would not have to pay more collectively than 1,000,000*l.* I have stated this to know whether or not, supposing it possible to bring about such a legislative enactment, you would think it desirable?—I cannot give a decided opinion; I think there would be many difficulties in it. In the first place, with all my respect for the country gentlemen, I do not think we are the best people to expend money which is to come out of the Consolidated Fund.

1534. Might not the board in town do it?—I think the result would then be the leaving the management of the roads entirely to the board of control in London. I do not think it expedient to permit the trustees to spend the money that was to be paid out of the Consolidated Fund.

1535. Not even if they were consolidated?—No, I think not; the effect of such a plan would be, to place the roads in the hands of the Government.

1536. In your opinion, a Government measure would not answer in the country?—No; I think local management better; but I do not see why the turnpike trustees are to be the only persons over whom there is no control.

1537. Suppose that the tolls in the county of Sussex were entirely done away with, and that there was some other means of raising the revenue of 42,700*l.* Let us assume that you require in Sussex 42,000*l.* a year; that some means are devised of raising this revenue either by tax on horses and carriages kept for pleasure, or some other means, as by a rate on houses; that this 42,000*l.* a year is raised by the county, and all the tolls are done away; that the consolidation of the trusts take place, and that in proportion as their income now is, in the several trusts, in that proportion should this 42,000*l.* a year be divided among them; that the management of the roads, the superintendence, the alteration and the improvements should be placed entirely in the hands of those gentlemen who would have it, if a consolidation were brought into operation; that the board of control in London should be established to superintend the financial department to see that these particular trusts which were consolidated should not be allowed to go beyond the means given them, and also that they were not allowed to undertake or expend money in an improper manner; would not your objection to country gentlemen be obviated, and would there not be much less inconvenience, and all the annoyance of the tolls taken away, and the landed and all interests be benefited?—I think that great and expensive improvements ought not to be paid by the occupiers alone; a portion of the expense ought to be paid by the owners. It is quite just to keep the road in repair, which is of great benefit to the occupiers, at their charge; but extensive improvements, which are a permanent benefit to the owners' estates, ought at least to be paid for to a certain extent by a rate on the owners.

1538. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] You will put the whole charge of the roads on the landed interest?—I do not recommend the plan, but if you can get rid of the debt, the counties can, I think, keep their roads in repair; I agree with the Report of the Committee of the House of Lords, that the trusts should be consolidated, and that efficient means should be taken to secure economy and to prevent the increase

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of the debt; I do not recommend the plan of abolishing tolls, but I am of opinion that if it is practicable, that it would be desirable.

1539. Supposing it to be as you state, if the tolls were done away with, the landlords would be the parties to keep these roads in repair?—I think the owners ought to pay a portion for the improvements, and the occupiers for the repairs.

1540. *Chairman.*] In the Report made from the Lords' Committee, it states something like a recommendation of the milemen being turned into a public force; and I think you stated, in the evidence given now, such a measure would perhaps be desirable; has your Grace turned your attention to the probability of the difference of expense that would occur, were such a police force established?—No, I have not; there are but few milemen employed at present; the expense would not be greater, for you would only pay them as you now pay special constables when they are employed, but you would have men of good character at hand, on whom you could depend.

1541. Mr. *Long.*] With regard to the farmers, they pay the most; where a person who keeps a horse pays only a few halfpence, the farmer pays 4*s.* 6*d.* for a waggon of four horses; would it not be a very great advantage to the agricultural interest to get rid of tolls altogether?—I think it would.

1542. Your Grace has never made any calculation as to what a farmer may pay in the course of a year for tolls?—No, I have not; but I know they are anxious to evade turnpike-gates, and frequently go a great distance round; they dislike in my neighbourhood the turnpike roads, and I believe that nothing would be more unpopular with the farmers than to propose to make the road turnpike between Chichester and Arundel, which is now a highway, and repaired by the several parishes.

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1543. *Chairman.*] HAVING heard the questions put to his Grace the Duke of Richmond, are you of opinion there could be any substitution for tolls, which would be desirable?—I think that tolls are at present collected in an expensive manner and with considerable loss; that is, that a considerable portion of the money which is collected from travellers, does not find its way to the treasurer of the trustees, and therefore, in that point of view alone, I should say, that tolls are objectionable. As to the best mode of raising money to keep up the turnpike trust for the repairs of the great roads of the country, I am not quite sure that a land-tax would be desirable, unless there was a compulsory means of raising a sufficient sum.

1544. In short, your answer comes to this, you are decidedly of opinion that it would be desirable to do away with the system of tolls, but you are not prepared to state to the Committee exactly, the substitution you would make for them?—I am not prepared to say what would be the best means to effect this object, but it does strike me, that if there were additional taxes put on horses kept for pleasure, and gentlemen's carriages, and also on farmers' carts and stage-coaches, which additional tax might be collected at the same time as the house-duty or window-tax; that such a system might for a certain extent answer the purpose of raising a sum sufficient to keep the roads in repair; but for great improvements, I would recommend that there should either be a county-rate under a board of management or control, appointed by Government, for determining the sum to be raised of each county for such a purpose. I am sure you could not carry on any very great or important improvement on any line of turnpike road that I am acquainted with, if you were to depend upon the sum necessary for such an improvement being levied off the land by the farmers on county gentlemen.

1545. Lord *Lowther.*] What do you mean by saying, the money collected does not all come into the hands of the trustees?—From the mode in which it is collected, it passes through so many hands, all of whom have to be supported.

1546. Do you mean that the trustees would collect more money by taking the tolls themselves, than if they were let?—No; I do not think they would get so much as by letting them.

1547. *Chairman.*] You mean a great deal of money is wasted in the collection?—Yes, more than is generally supposed.

1548. Assuming

1548. Assuming that the public pay 1,000 *l.* a year, have you considered how much goes into the pockets of the trustees, and the difference between that and the expenses of collection?—I do not see how such an estimate could be formed.

1549. Your opinion is, that the loss is very considerable?—My opinion is, that it is very considerable.

1550. I believe you are aware that there is a good deal of jobbing round the metropolis in getting these tolls; outbidding the other people; a sort of combination to keep it in certain hands?—It is not only so about the metropolis, but in many parts of the country; when gates are to be let, advertisements are inserted in the papers, and it is pretty well known throughout the country, and I believe persons who are in the habit of taking gates will travel 200 or 300 miles, and if a stranger comes to the letting of the tolls, it is not an uncommon thing for the old lessees to make a subscription of 50*l.* or 100*l.* to keep him quiet and to prevent his bidding for the gates.

1551. Lord *Lowther.*] Notwithstanding all this, do not the gates, when they are let by public competition, generally let for about their value?—I believe, in some cases, they let for more than their value; I believe that such is frequently the case until the parties become acquainted with the real value of the concern.

1552. *Chairman.*] You are decidedly of opinion that great combination does exist in some parts of the country, in keeping those tolls in a particular way?—I have no doubt of it.

1553. Do the London people go down into Wales?—I have heard of people in London going down below Berwick.

1554. But into Wales, between Shrewsbury and Holyhead?—I cannot answer that exactly; but people go from London and York to Birmingham.

1555. *Chairman.*] Your opinion is, that such a system of toll is injurious to the public in general, and to the landed interest also?—Yes, I am clearly of that opinion. I think if there was a tax on all description of carriages, the farmer would not, as he now does, in many instances, endeavour to evade a toll by going two or three miles round, a system which is hurtful to the farmer.

1556. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] What do you say is the average rate per mile a day that a stage-coach pays running a great mail-road?—A stage-coach running from London to Birmingham pays nearly 4*l.* per day.

1557. How much does that make a mile?—The distance is about 108 miles; I think it is about 8½*d.* or 9*d.*

1558. The toll is high in consequence of additional tolls being laid on for borrowing very large sums on Exchequer bills, is it not?—Yes.

1559. Take an ordinary road; do you believe that the statements are correct which the coach-masters have made in evidence elsewhere, that the average is about 6½*d.* per mile?—I dare say it is so in some cases.

1560. How much does that make a year a mile?—About 9*l.*

1561. Then a coach, for every 100 miles it runs, pays 900*l.* a year?—Yes; I believe a London and Birmingham coach pays nearly 1,200*l.*

1562. In what way could that fund for repairing the road be levied on a more fair principle?—I do not think it could, by any possibility, be put on a fairer principle than by the mile. I think the mode which I have suggested for taking the toll would completely lead to such an effect, without the inconvenience now felt, for a coach-master might be obliged to pay a mileage toll as well as duty for a coach. Say for 100 miles, if it was 6*d.* per mile, they would pay 900*l.* a year; if it was required to be 1*s.*, it would be 1,800 *l.*: this might be collected in the same manner as the post duty.

1563. *Chairman.*] You would regulate the expense of the tollhouses, and lay on a duty on the coach at once?—Yes; according as they were licensed to run so many miles.

1564. Lord *Lowther.*] How many gates are there from here to Birmingham; and what is the rate of toll?—There are 21; but the toll is very variable; the highest is 7½*d.* a horse.

1565. And the lowest?—Three pence.

1566. *Chairman.*] You are of opinion that tollgates prevent the facility of communication, and are not desirable for the benefit of the country?—I think they are, to a certain degree, a hindrance; at the same time, I do not see any

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mode in which you could at the present moment substitute any tax that would be necessary for the purpose, except that of mileage duty on the carriages, and a tax on gentlemen's carriages in addition to that which they now pay.

1567. By which means you could get all the immense wealth of London to contribute, who pay nothing to roads now?—All those carriages which are in daily use about London pay no toll, except perhaps once or twice a year, and some pay no toll at all.

1568. Who perhaps are the most wealthy people in the country?—Yes.

1569. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] Are you acquainted with the opinion of the coach proprietors on the Birmingham road, with respect to the additional toll being laid on, for making the improvements on that road?—There has been, in some cases, complaints from the coach-masters; in one or two cases I have heard of it; but, generally speaking, they are all so anxious to have a good road, that they do not care much about the toll.

1570. Have you heard instances of application on the part of the proprietors to lay out a large sum, and pay a heavy toll on the road?—Yes; one of the largest coach-masters told me some time ago, that if it were necessary, they would themselves advance 50,000*l.*, to carry some works into execution, if they saw the means of being repaid. In fact, they do not consider the tolls so much, as the injury they receive from a bad road; and this is natural, when we consider that in some districts a horse, not really travelling above 10 miles, does the same work as if he went 20 miles on a better road. Persons who are accustomed to drive horses, and pay largely for them, well understand this. In some cases, coach-masters allow 10 miles for horsing their coaches, where the actual distance travelled is not above seven or eight miles.

1571. *Chairman.*] Your observations come to this; they prefer a good road, but it would be more desirable to pay a direct tax on the carriage than pay a toll?—I never heard them say so, but I have no doubt it would be so; for in many cases, where they do not agree with the tollgate keeper, they are obliged to stop every time, and at all times they stop once a week to pay the tolls, which is loss of time and objectionable.

1572. Colonel *Lowther.*] But on a good road they keep much fewer horses, do they not?—They do not keep less horses on the Holyhead road, but the horses last longer and work better, and are not so liable to accidents and disease.

1573. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] They take short stages instead of long?—The very fast coaches do so; the mails are allowed about a horse a mile.

1574. *Chairman.*] To come to the next point put to the Duke of Richmond; what is your opinion as to the elegibility of consolidating the trusts, but leaving the management of the funds in the trustees?—I think the trusts are not very badly managed at present; I think there is a great deal of good feeling among the trustees in general as to public convenience and improvement, but in some cases they are misled: sometimes from the want of proper instructed surveyors, and from not having a right mode of carrying the works into execution. I know some instances in which new roads have been made, which are no improvement at all on the old existing road: I think if there was some assistance given to the trustees, by better engineering skill, and also a certain degree of control, there would be a public advantage derived from it.

1575. Do you think there would be any difficulty in uniting the trusts which are not exactly in the same circumstances, that is, a poorer trust with a rich trust; how would you obviate such difficulty?—I do not know any mode, supposing the one is to be accountable for the debts of the other; I think if I had a mortgage on a wealthy road, I should not like to be burdened with a poor trust; how such an arrangement could be made I am not prepared to say.

1576. That has been one of the objections to the late Bill, has it not?—I am not aware of it.

1577. You are not prepared to suggest any mode by which it might be obviated?—None, except by some general tax on the country to pay off the debt.

1578. Unless a general legislative enactment takes place, you do not think the local enactments for consolidating the trusts will answer the purpose?—No; I think that very great inconvenience and discontent, in many cases, would be felt by parties who have lent money on trusts; they have a power to take possession

session of the gates; and I have no doubt they would resort to it if they thought they were not secured, and thus stop the necessary funds for the repairs.

1579. Do you think it would be possible to consolidate the management without consolidating the fund?—I think it might to a certain extent.

1580. It was thrown out before this Committee by a witness, that there was a possibility of making a general legislative enactment to consolidate the funds and the trusts, provided they were willing to do so, but not otherwise; that is, something like a general Inclosure Bill; do you think a measure of that kind would be more desirable than the Bill which has been abandoned this session?—I think it could not produce any bad effect, and it might produce a good one. The trustees are influenced by the opinion of their officers, and it would not be their interest to make consolidations.

1581. Am I to understand you have seen this late Bill?—I have not read it.

1582. On a general principle, I understand you to say, you are not of opinion that this consolidation of funds and trusts would succeed of itself, without some further enactment?—I do not think it would.

1583. You have heard the questions I put as to the possibility of establishing something like a highway police, or milemen, as labourers on the roads; do you think there is any objection to such a measure?—There is not any practicable objection as to the working of it; that is, as to carrying the work into execution; and I am not sure it would be considered a very palatable or proper measure, in a country like this, to have a police all over it; I do not know what the feeling might be. There would also be practical difficulty in having such a description of labourers.

1584. Are you aware there is in the Report of a Committee of the House of Lords this recommendation; the measure of employing permanent milemen with occasional assistant labourers on the roads, has combined such indisputable advantages, that the Committee do not hesitate to recommend its more general adoption, and submit that such a system might be rendered contributory to the objects of general security?—I think road work should be entirely confined to labourers. I think the making a police of them would not do; if they become such, they will not be good labourers; as an engineer, employing men, I am sure of it.

1585. They would only occasionally be acting as policemen?—But then they must be entirely a different description of men from what I should expect good labourers to be; such men as are now employed on canals and railways, getting 3*s.* or 4*s.* a day. Men of that description would be decidedly desirable, and one on two miles of road would not be too much for men of their power and strength. Good workmen like these would not be good policemen. I think that light active men who have not been brought up to the spade and shovel, would be better policemen.

1586. You are of opinion, if there was a superior description of labourers, such a system might be adopted with advantage; but you are not supposing the same sort of men as are now generally employed?—I would have a better description of men employed on the roads. I had a proof of that in the case of a road I had, of the extent of about 30 miles. I had a man on every mile, and I picked out the very best I could get in the county, and during the whole time I had the management of it nothing could be better. They were paid something more than common labourers; they were paid as much as 1*s.* 2*d.* a day, the common price of labour being at that time about 10*d.*; there was one on every mile; they were the very best men that could be got. They were men who could write and keep accounts, and work well. The stone was provided in the depôts: they barrowed it all out in small carts; by that means the stone was carried into depôts, when horses could be got cheap; it was then put out in small quantities, and with judgment and care on the road, by the workmen.

1587. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] You are speaking of them as useful men as labourers?—Yes.

1588. Supposing they had been subject to have been called away on police business, how would that have operated?—I do not think they would have done so well.

1589. Would it not derange the whole of your plans?—I am quite sure that good working men, if they had been concerned in the police of the country, would not have been worth so much as labourers.

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1590. Colonel *Lowther.*] Do you find policemen wanted on roads at a distance from towns?—I have never happened to see any occasion for it.

1591. *Chairman.*] The object is not to turn these milemen into a set of regular policemen, always on duty, as in London; but to have a superior set of labourers on the roads, who, as the witness has stated, would do the work more effectually, and be able by organizing the labourers, to make them useful in the event of any felony or any arson committed in their neighbourhood, if information was given to them, with some idea of reward, and be on the roads on the look out; those occurrences might not happen once in six months?—They would lose their character as workmen; and I, as a practical man, going into the country and looking for labourers, the last thing would be to take a person who had been in the police.

1592. Are your labourers paid by the job or by the day?—The labourers that I spoke of as being on the mile, were paid by the year.

1593. Did they work by the job?—No, by the day or the year; I gave them so much by the year for their daily work.

1594. Assuming those were a respectable description of persons, do I understand the witness to say, that if they had 1*s.* a week more, or 1*s.* 6*d.*, or a trifle more, so as to make them attentive, and if they were sworn in as special constables, and were ready to go out if there were any object, such as apprehending persons charged with stopping people on the highway, or on any apprehension that murder had been committed, would this make them bad labourers by merely receiving an additional 1*s.* a week, on the possibility of being called out once in six months?—I think, as labourers, it would injure them to a certain extent.

1595. It would be an excuse for not performing their work?—Yes, I think so.

1596. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Could you get the value of the money out of them?—No, I do not think I could.

1597. Why?—It would turn their attention from their work; they would not be labourers, they would lose the character of a labourer.

1598. *Chairman.*] Has the witness seen evidence stating two milemen were employed and answered perfectly well on the Staines road?—I have not seen any part of the evidence before this Committee; but I am convinced from experience that men employed by the day or year as milemen, is an excellent system, if employed in that alone.

1599. Your experience teaches you that milemen would be desirable?—Yes, but you must keep them as labourers; I recommended the trustees of some roads I had the management of to build cottages for the men at every mile, and it has been done in two or three instances.

1600. That is highly desirable, is it not?—Very desirable; those men had the care of the road, and they had a pride in keeping up their portion of it; and on Sundays they walked along it and compared it with the other men's miles, or portions of road.

1601. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Would not that interfere with the facility in discharging them if they behaved ill?—I think not, for we have the power of discharging a man on a Saturday night.

1602. But supposing he is in the possession of a cottage, it is not quite so easy to get him out?—If he is not paid his wages he will go out.

1603. *Chairman.*] Suppose a mileman had the authority of a constable, but was not to leave the road unless to apprehend an offender, or to give notice, or to ascertain if a suspicious person was going along on the road, whom he might reasonably suppose had committed the felony or the murder that had been perpetrated in the neighbourhood; is it, in your opinion, incompatible with the offices of those men (who you say take a pleasure in walking on the roads and looking at their work). We will say that a murder or arson is committed on a Saturday night, would there be any great injury done to those milemen?—Yes, I think it would draw their attention away; they would be looking after suspicious characters, and going to public-houses for information, and it would be injurious to them; if they are proper men they will act without being sworn in at all. There were some convicts coming up from Shrewsbury, some years ago, to London, and they were able to get off their hand-cuffs; they were coming up by the coach at night; they seized the guards who were with them and the coachman, and they tied them and left them on the coach, and

scampered

scampered off; next morning, they did not know their way; they had gone to the east of the road, and returned towards the west, and came nearly to the same spot they had left the night before. The workmen on the road heard what took place, and instantly seized four or five on the road.

1604. *Chairman.*] Is it your opinion those workmen were injured by so doing?—No; they were quite ready, which shows they were influenced by proper motives.

1605. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] The workmen on the road are always ready to assist in cases where it is necessary to enforce law, without being actually appointed, are they not?—Yes; particularly those appointed by the year or the mile: it would be a very good system, from what I know on one of the trusts of the Holyhead road. They have something like that, and also what they call a serjeant, who has the care of three miles; those serjeants walk from end to end of that three miles every day, so that no part of that road is not under the eye of those men; they cut the fences, and are the best description of labouring men, in whom the surveyor can place confidence.

1606. The best sort of men, are they not?—Yes.

1607. Have you made improvements in your instrument for trying the draughts of carriages on roads?—Yes; I have one now under construction that will be very superior to those I first constructed, as that required a professional man to work it, and take down the results. In the present one, if you send it along the road by a common servant, you can get a complete and exact state of the road; as to its resistance to draught, and the power required to draw a carriage over it, and whereabouts that power is exerted, where it is out of repair, and where it is in a good state; it will mark the precise situation of that part of the road.

1608. How is this information given?—By a line drawn on a sheet of paper by a pencil.

1609. As the carriage moves along?—Yes.

1610. Are you still satisfied of the principle of your machine being a correct one, as to ascertaining the draughts of carriages?—I am quite certain of its being perfectly correct, for we have tried it in some cases, and compared it with a weight hanging over a pulley, and the results were the same. It is only in certain cases where a weight over a pulley could be applied; it could not be done practically over a road of any length.

1611. Has anything occurred as to the soundness of your principle being controverted by other engineers?—No.

1612. Is it generally adopted by them as a correct machine?—Yes, and referred to in very many cases. In France there has been a petition to the Chamber of Deputies, founded on my experiments, relative to the mode of ascertaining the draught of carriages, and the saving by using springs.

1613. *Chairman.*] You were the author of that algebraical calculation delivered in the Lords?—Yes.

1614. Does it correspond with the results made by the machine?—It was founded on experiments made by the machine; it was a formula that would give the power required to draw a carriage over a road in a section of that road, from data determined by experiments made by the machine.

1615. Is your machine calculated to give the draught on setting the body in motion, or when it is in motion?—Both.

1616. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] Then it would appear that your former calculations, as to different effects of different roads on the draughts of carriages, are correct?—Yes, quite correct; and they have been confirmed by very many experiments I have made since I was examined before the Committee of the House of Lords.

1617. Then, in fact, that is the general conclusion, that a road is good for its object, namely, of diminishing the draught of a carriage, in the proportion that it is hard and smooth?—The great advantages of the roads appearing by the machine is certainly in proportion to their solidity and their strength, and their want of yielding. If it could be a perfectly solid mass of stone or metal, the least resistance would be presented, that is, shown both on stone tramways and on metal tramways, and metal rails. There are some metal tramways laid in Glasgow on rather a steep hill, and it is not at all unusual for a horse to take from two to three tons; that arises merely from the saving in the resistance of the surface friction being lessened.

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1618. Lord *Lowther.*] That is, from the smoothness of the surface?—Yes, from the smoothness and hardness.

1619. So that if clean material of any road nine inches thick were properly beat down, that will not yield?—Nine inches will yield very much.

1620. What on an old road of nine inches thick?—Yes, with heavy waggons. One of the great advantages arising from Mr. Telford's system of forming roads by large stone pavements, is from the fact that one point is distributed, that the pressure of the wheels is distributed over a large space. The wheels of the carriage rest on, say, two inches of surface, but that is carried to a large pitching stone below, which rests on the soil, and the weight is distributed over a large surface at the bottom; that is to say, over a surface a foot or nine inches long, and six or eight inches wide; it is lessened very much indeed on the surface that bears on the earth.

1621. Lord *Lowther.*] You speak of a heavy waggon; is there a distinction between the crushing of the materials and the vibration?—If it is very smooth there is not much crushing. I should perhaps say, where broken granite is placed on the London streets, there is little crushing on the surface, but a good deal below. In some experiments I made some time ago, I found that a great portion of the wear took place near the bottom, the stones there got round after a very short time.

1622. How do you explain that; they would sink into a soft substance, would they not?—Yes, they were all jumbled together; the lower part of the lower stratum was on clay.

1623. Would not the pressure from above, instead of wearing out those angles, only press it down?—No; before it became a solid mass at all, the wheels worked through and the stones were kept in motion, and rubbing against each other from top to bottom; a portion was put down with a very solid foundation, and the same quantity was put over it; I took up a portion of both roads, and we found where the road was about 15 or 16 inches thick, and the stones six inches thick over the bottom pavement, they were quite square and as perfect as when put on. In the other case it was not so.

1624. I am well aware that you are a good mathematician; how is it possible that the wear can be greater on that elastic road, for we all know the first principle of mechanics is, that where two substances meet and one yields gently to the other, the friction, or the wear and tear, is not so great?—That is so on the surface and at the point of contact, but where there is a yielding and elasticity in the road, there must be motion among the particles with which the road is formed, and this motion produces wear.

1625. But it may be so imperceptible, as to be almost evanescent?—Yes, but when it is so there is no motion among the particles.

1626. Sir *H. Parnell.*] Do you mean this motion of the stones on the surface continues wearing off the angles or edges, and making them into round pebbles?—Yes, that is what takes place on a weak road. There are two things to be considered, when a road is newly made; there is very great wear indeed, in the first instance, if there be not a pitched foundation; that is different from the wear that takes place when it is nearly consolidated; to bring it into a solid state the wear is great; if there are four inches of broken stone on the top of a pitched foundation, you may get that road in a perfectly hard and consolidated state by the ordinary travelling over a turnpike road, in about three months; but if you put on the same thickness of stone without a foundation, you will not get it in a perfect state in three or four times as long.

1627. Do you give that opinion from experience?—It is quite certain.

1628. What instance can you refer to in support of the statement of the quickness with which a road is consolidated, where the upper surface of stone is laid on a paved bottom?—The last example I have had, is that one near Shrewsbury, between Wellington and Shrewsbury, a road made there very lately. It was opened to the public in the latter end of December, and in the early part of May it was quite as solid and perfect as if it had been in existence for 50 years.

1629. What was the material?—It was a sort of porphyry; it is a hard compact sand-stone, with no lime in it.

1630. Was this made with a paved foundation?—Yes.

1631. *Chairman.*] If I understand you right, you put such a thickness of broken

broken stone over the pitched bottom, they consolidate into one solid mass quicker than if there was no pitched bottom; how do you explain that?—In order to put in stone at all that will bear carriages in the first instance, you must have a certain depth of them; you cannot put in four inches, if you put in four inches the wheels will sink through and the clay will rise; it will be all mud and stone together. Then you must put on three or four inches more and so on, until a sufficient stratum is formed; until this takes place there is great waste of stone, and you have not got a solid road after all; a great portion of that stone is worn away in the meantime and mixed with mud, liable to get soft with every shower of rain. When you put in nine inches thick of a large stone pavement, the mud cannot get up, the four inches of the small stone put over cannot sink. A certain portion of the first stone is ground away, but not a great deal, for it falls into the interstices of the pitched stone; they hold each other by the sharp angles, they are kept solid.

1632. Assuming that these [*pointing to a model*] were small lumps of sugar, and that there was an equal space of dough put there, if you put an inch of small lumps of sugar there, and an inch of small lumps of sugar on the dough of the same size, and keep rolling a substance over it, which of those would be the soonest to give?—The sugar would sink in the dough.

1633. Would not that tend to unite?—They would make a soft mixture; then you must scrape away that; then you would put on more stone, and the same process would go on, and before you get a solid road you would lose at least 12 or 14 inches of broken stone.

1634. Sir *H. Parnell.*] In your former answer, you said that you thought it would be of advantage if the trustees of the roads were assisted by civil engineering; I wish to know whether road-making ought not to be considered as a branch of the science or art of civil engineering?—I am of opinion that the laying out a good line of road, in some parts of the country, is perhaps as difficult a subject as comes before an engineer; and it is quite impossible for country surveyors and land surveyors, who have not been accustomed to engineering pursuits, to run out a line of road with advantage to the public.

1635. Or short lines for improvements?—I know instances in which lines of road, that are said to be improved, are not so good as the old line of road.

1636. Now, in regard to the construction of a road, is it not necessary a person who undertakes to construct and make a new road, should have that sort of education that makes him acquainted with the science of civil engineering?—It is quite necessary, and that is shown in France to a very great extent; and I believe wherever roads are made here by civil engineers, they bear a very different character to the roads in other parts of the country; and also that there is a saving in the wear of materials on a well-constructed road, and well-laid out road. If a line of road has not rates of acclivity greater than 1 in 40, there will be 20 per cent. saving over one that rises 1 in 20; this is a fact not generally known, but it is quite certain; that is to say, a road that has acclivities of 1 in 20 will cost 18 or 20 per cent. more than the one that has acclivity of 1 in 40.

1637. As a matter of course, a civil engineer looks to the appearance his road has, as well as to the fitness to draw carriages; is it not always a rule with them to have it uniform as to breadth and shape?—Yes; there are certain rules which an engineer would always adopt, that is, a certain uniform width, and a certain curvature, a certain height of footway, and a certain width of waste and fences, according to the description of road he was to make.

1638. To acquire that degree of uniformity, is it not necessary to use instruments, and to have that sort of habitual method of managing works that can only be acquired by a regular education?—I conceive so; I do not think a road can well be laid out, except by a professional person.

1639. Have you found it the practice to appoint engineers as surveyors of roads?—No; I do not know an instance of it, except on the road between Shrewsbury and Holyhead, and there the effect is very apparent.

1640. What class of persons are they commonly?—Generally farmers; in some instances they have been tradespeople.

1641. May not a great deal of what may be considered to be imperfect in the roads of this country, be attributed to the want of having more assistance from the profession?—Yes; I think the fact I have stated, that a saving of 20 per cent. in repairing a road might be made in a very slight alteration of

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declivity in a road, will prove that principle; and also that there will be a saving when the road has the appearance of uniformity and neatness about it, for the men who put out the stone can see when it is out of shape and where it gets weak, and they instantly repair it; by this means there is not the same jolting, the same degree of resistance, to carriages passing over it; and nothing but a perfect and uniform line of curves and levels will enable the eye of a workman to see where the deficiency takes place.

1642. Generally speaking, the roads are not uniform as to breadth, convexity or width?—No; there does not appear to be any system in this country on this very important point; generally speaking, no road that I am acquainted with has uniform width and height of footpath, and curvature of surface, even for half a mile in length.

1643. Would it contribute to the good order and keeping up of a road to pay attention to these points?—It would be a great saving.

1644. A road is easier kept clean and dry?—Yes, and more easily seen when it becomes weak.

1645. Are the workmen more attentive and careful when it is all put in a proper shape?—They would become of a different character; a workman, as soon as he got a uniform and neat road, would have a pride in his work, and would keep it in better order and free from ruts, weeds, &c.

1646. Is there not a great deal still wanting in that class of roads for mail-coaches to put them into a proper state, that is, to reduce the hills to such a rate of inclination as may be considered not only convenient but safe, and also in shortening roads?—Yes, there might be a great deal done to improve the roads.

1647. Mr. *Ormsby Gore.*] In short, none of the roads are so good as they might be?—I do not think any; and I believe if there was a proper line of section and improvements in the great roads, and if the expenditure was confined to that, instead of a little trifling improvement making by country surveyors, where they run away with a great deal of money, it would be very desirable.

1648. Suppose it was proposed that a line of road in this country should have all the hills brought to an inclination of 1 in 24, and that they should be shortened where it might be done with great advantage, can you form an idea of the average rate of expense per mile necessary to be incurred in making these improvements, and generally in making the roads as perfect as they ought to be made?—I have no doubt that taking a long line of road, from 800*l.* to 1,000*l.* a mile would be sufficient.

1649. What length of line would you take?—From London to York, for example.

1650. Taking a trust with a number of hills and inclinations, would it not amount to 1,500*l.* or 2,000*l.*?—It would depend on the description of the country through which it passed; in some counties it would not, in some of the hilly counties it would come to fully that.

1651. In all hilly counties?—Yes, perhaps it might; no road is perfect unless it has rates of acclivity equal or less than 1 in 40.

Veneris 8° *die Julii*, 1836.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Mackinnon.	Sir Henry Parnell.
Mr. Stewart Mackenzie.	Colonel Rushbrooke.
Mr. Richard Walker.	Lord Viscount Lowther.
Mr. Childers.	Mr. Walter Long.
Lord Viscount Clive.	

WILLIAM A. MACKINNON, ESQ. IN THE CHAIR.

Dr. *Dionysius Lardner*, called in; and Examined.

Dr. *Dionysius Lardner.*
8 July 1836.

1652. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] YOU have paid attention to the construction of roads, have you not?—I have.

1653. What, in your opinion, is the proper object and purpose of a road?—In my

my opinion the main object of a road connecting two places, is to enable loads to be transported from the one place to the other in the least possible time, and with the least possible expenditure of tractive power.

1654. On what does the tractive power depend?—The tractive power depends upon several qualities in the road; first, upon its levelness; secondly, upon the smoothness of its surface; and, thirdly, upon a quality which I suppose I may call hardness; the absence, in fact, of elasticity.

1655. Is it a matter requiring much science and skill to arrange a road with reference to these objects?—It is quite evident it requires a very unusual combination of scientific and practical knowledge. It is obviously impracticable to make a road which would be theoretically perfect; and therefore there arises an extremely delicate inquiry as to the best possible compromise which can be made between all the inevitable imperfections, the existence of which we are forced to admit. A road, to be theoretically perfect, should be, first, perfectly straight; secondly, perfectly level; thirdly, perfectly smooth; and, fourthly, perfectly hard. If it possessed all these qualities in absolute perfection, the consequence would be it would require no tractive power at all. An impulse given to a load at one end, would carry it to the other by its inertia alone. This is the ideal limit to which it is the business of a road-maker to approximate as nearly as he can, all practical circumstances being considered.

1656. Therefore a road will be more or less perfect in proportion as it approximates to this, all circumstances considered?—Just so. It is obvious it cannot be perfectly straight, and it is obvious it cannot be perfectly level; you might have a perfect level if you chose to make unlimited deviations from perfect straightness; and you might have it perfectly straight, if you chose to encounter the great evil of want of levelness.

1657. Then the degree of straightness would depend upon the degree of hill?—Just so.

1658. A road ought to be as short as possible, consistently with some regular principle as to hills, ought it not?—Yes. Now with respect to the acclivities; there is a distinct mechanical character which attaches to acclivities, depending on their steepness. One acclivity is not more injurious than another in the mere ratio in which it is more steep than another. There are some acclivities which afford a certain compensating effect in the descent; there are others that never fully compensate for the power lost in their ascent. There is an acclivity, or an inclination, which we designate in the department of mechanical science that relates to these things by the term of the "angle of repose"; it is the steepest acclivity down which the carriage will not roll of its own accord—down which it will not roll by its own gravity. On more steep acclivities the carriage will roll down without any tractive power; every acclivity under that limit which will require more or less of tractive force downward. Now acclivities, which are less steep than the angle of repose, give a compensation in descending for the excessive tractive force they require in ascending—that is the case with acclivities between the perfect level and the angle of repose; and I take it that that inclination should be the major limit which ought to be imposed to hills, as they are called, upon the first class of turnpike roads; the more they are under that inclination of course the better, but certainly they should never exceed it.

1659. Can you state that acclivity in figures?—That will depend upon several circumstances; it will depend in some measure on the carriage; because a carriage of one structure will roll down a hill, when a carriage of another structure would not. Then it will depend upon the surface of the road; but if we take the very best class of broken-stone road surface, constructed in the best manner so as to be as hard as can be, and a good class of carriage rolling upon it, I suppose, at a rough estimate, one in forty would be the angle of repose. I should advise the great roads not to be more steep than one in forty.

1660. With regard to smoothness; are you of opinion that that should be the only object with respect to roads?—Clearly not; until a comparatively late period a very prevalent, indeed almost universal error prevailed with respect to roads. All that people considered was what they conceived to be an easy motion to the passengers; that which was easiest to the passengers was concluded to be also the easiest to the horses; or perhaps I should be more correct in saying the horses were not considered at all. People never thought of taking into consideration the mechanical force which was necessary to draw a load along a road. If there were two roads with surfaces equally smooth, (acclivities of an equal steepness, and

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along which the passengers felt themselves equally comfortable), those roads were at once assumed to be, to all intents and purposes, equally good; a greater mistake could scarcely be found than that. Suppose a road surface were made of Indian rubber, the surface being as smooth as it can be imagined to be, no road could be worse for traction, the wheels would sink into the surface, and the tractive force would be continually pulling up a hill; it would have the effect of a continual ascent. The surface of the road should be as hard and as unyielding as art can make it; the wheel should not sink; no temporary depression should take place, even though that depression be restored by elasticity after the wheel is removed. By whatever means, this end must be attained. It is quite essential, although there may be a difference in the means of attaining it; but attained it most certainly ought to be.

1661. Do you speak from experience on this point of elasticity?—Not from experience as an engineer, but only from having devoted a good deal of time to the consideration of this subject, and being perfectly acquainted with the experiments that have been made and the experience we have had upon roads; and I also give that opinion upon general scientific principles.

1662. With reference to the general laws of motion?—Undoubtedly; it is not a point about which any two scientific men can differ; there can be no difference of opinion about it. I mean that that quality is best for the surface of the road which will not permit it to alter its figure under the pressure of the wheel.

1663. Then the degree of hardness will depend upon the degree in which elasticity is absent?—Yes, certainly, a road may have two qualities in that respect; it may yield not being restored, or it may yield with being restored. If it yield without being restored, that will do a double mischief, because, as well as increasing the resistance, the road will be quickly worn out.

1664. *Chairman.*] There is a question I would wish to ask you with regard to the elasticity: now, glass is a very elastic substance; lead is one which is non-elastic; according to your principle, therefore, if I roll over a plane of glass a glass ball, from those two being elastic it would not go so easily as if I were to roll over it a leaden ball?—Glass is not elastic in that sense. It is elastic with respect to percussion. There are two ways in which you can understand the expression elastic: glass is said to be highly elastic with this meaning; it restores itself to its figure with almost as much force as that with which you alter its figure; but glass is exceedingly hard, and it is difficult to alter the figure of glass.

1665. Upon the same principle, assuming the road yields a little and immediately regains its form, it appears to me to assimilate to the quality of glass?—It is not recovering its form that is of the slightest consequence, because the resistance to the tractive force will be just the same whether it recovers its figure or not; the resistance to the tractive force, strictly speaking, has nothing to do with the elasticity of the road but with its softness; but its being elastic as well as soft does not alter the case in the least. It is difficult to express the thing by those terms, because those are shades of meaning which escape us. It will convey to the Committee more correctly my meaning, if I state that the quality of the road ought to be such that, as the wheels roll over it, it should not suffer any change of its figure.

1666. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] That is a state of things which is strictly in conformity with the laws of science as relating to moving bodies?—Strictly.

1667. According as I understand you, there is no difference among scientific men as to the necessity of having a road as hard as possible in order to be a perfect road?—Yes, in order to offer the least possible resistance to the tractive force.

1668. Consequently the expense of the draught comes into the calculation in making the road as hard as possible?—Precisely.

1669. Have there not been experiments made upon the railroads with regard to the elasticity?—Yes.

1670. What has been the result?—It has been found that they have considerable elasticity; it is incredible to what an extent this quality exists in them. People would not believe the degree of elasticity there is in an iron railroad; there is a change in passing from one chair to another chair. I have applied an instrument for measuring the tractive force to the waggons upon a railroad, and I have perceived distinctly the passage of the wheels of the waggon over every successive chair of the road.

1671. Have you examined the degree of elasticity of railroads, constructed on other principles, where there has been a continued support to the railroad instead of a support by chairs?—I do not know where that principle has been adopted.

1672. Have

1672. Have you made experiments so as to be able to say what degree of elasticity there is on different railroads?—No; all that I have experimented upon have been constructed upon the same principle, except that some of them are on wooden sleepers and some on stone.

1673. How is it with regard to the elasticity of those two?—I have not compared this; but there is evidently less change from prop to prop on the wooden sleepers.

1674. Is there any doubt that this elasticity requires a greater moving power?—It is a point upon which there can be no doubt.

1675. *Chairman.*] Would you have the kindness to state to the Committee the difference in the elasticity, when you observed the sleepers were of wood, and when you observed they were of stone?—Inasmuch as the rails are the same, whether placed on wood or on stone, their elasticity cannot be different; but there is this difference, the stone blocks with the chairs upon them form firm unyielding props, and at every yard there is a prop which will not yield under the pressure of the wheel; the rail between the two props consequently is forced to yield, and becomes for the moment a curve, and the wheel rolls down from prop to prop as if it went through the valley of a wave; but with wooden sleepers the pressure which the wheel makes when passing between the props is transmitted to the chairs, and the wooden sleepers yielding to it so that the rail does not become so much curved as with stone blocks.

1676. Then there is less elasticity with the wooden sleepers than with the stone?—Just so; the elasticity is transferred to the wooden sleepers in the one case, instead of the iron rails in the other.

1677. There is more undulation in the one than the other?—Yes; when you pass over certain portions of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway in the carriages, you may perceive the undulation.

1678. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] What, in your opinion, is the proper way of getting rid of the elasticity in roads when you are constructing them?—That is, I think, a question which involves a great deal of practical difficulty; it is quite clear that *cæteris paribus* the thicker the crust of the road is the harder it will be, because a thick crust will not yield as much as a thin one. Then the structure of the road, and nature of the soil, are also to be considered. If a road has a soft subsoil, it has always appeared to me to be that the best method of constructing it is by what I call a *Telfordization*—I mean, in fact, an archway of stone-work under the road; it is a regular piece of archway structure, which abuts on the sides of the road as it were, and upon that the roadwork of broken stone is laid; and the thicker that is, and the more durable and firm the substructure is made, of course the harder will be the road.

1679. And be better with respect to drainage?—And with respect to the drainage it will be better for the duration of the road, of course. It is quite essential to the surface of the road that it should be exposed to the wind and the sun.

1680. Then in laying out a line of road, you would avoid, if possible, going over marshy or elastic ground?—Clearly so; or at least if I did I would take care to press it down so as to destroy its marshy character; as we have done in the Chat-moss, on the Liverpool and Manchester Railroad.

1681. In flat meadows there is always elasticity, is there not?—Certainly; in fact, what I should say is, the harder the surface is the better will be the road for all purposes. Neither can anything be more injurious or destructive to a road than the smothering it up with trees and hedges, because everything that excludes the sun and the air is prejudicial; the water mixes with the dust that is produced by the attrition of the carriages, and that forms a sort of grinding matter that wears away the surface of the road; now if the sun and air have access to the road, the water is quickly evaporated by that means.

1682. You make these observations with reference to the durability of the surface of the road, do you not?—Yes; and also with respect to the tractive force upon it.

1683. Lord *Lowther.*] Is there more tractive power on a road not exposed to the weather?—There is more tractive power on a road not exposed.

1684. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] It would appear, from your evidence, that the construction of a road would require a considerable degree of science and practical skill on the part of those who undertake it; is it your opinion that it does so?—I do not know that I could suggest any one problem to be proposed to an engineer, that

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would require a greater exertion of scientific skill and practical knowledge, than laying out the construction of a road. Unfortunately the original laying out of a road is an employment that is rarely submitted to an engineer; he is generally controlled by circumstances. The early road-makers were almost always obliged to follow our old horse-paths in the country, in a very great degree. To lay out and design a road between two points, the surface of the country should, in the first instance, be accurately ascertained; the engineer should make himself as well acquainted with the undulations and the surface of the country as if he had passed his hand over every foot of it; and, even supposing he has a model of it before him, it becomes an extremely delicate and difficult problem to say what will be the best course to take for a line of road joining two points; he of course must encounter the undulations in such a manner as to adapt his cuttings to his embankments; that is, where he cuts through an eminence he must take care so to arrange the course of the road as that he shall have a hollow to fill up which will just employ the stuff he cuts out of the embankment; then the quality of the crust of the earth he must know, because it is not after he has begun to make his road that he is to discover the practical difficulties which stand in his way. In fact, it requires a considerable knowledge of geology; the stratification and the angles at which different soils will not only stand at the beginning, but the angles at which they will continue to stand, subject to all the actions of the weather.

1685. Then, in point of fact, it does not appear that the advantage of the science of engineering has been applied very extensively to the roads in this country?—Most decidedly not; it never was brought in any degree into play until the problem of railroads was started, when from the nature of the road a greater degree of level and straightness became indispensable; then persons were forced to call in engineering skill, and they found the supply of it totally inadequate to the demand. A board of mushroom engineers have started up for the occasion, and have been forced upon the public. I am quite sure that a vast number of the projects that are now in progress will be very imperfectly carried into effect from the want of that species of mechanical and scientific knowledge which is indispensably necessary.

1686. With reference to general improvements, and also with reference to new roads in this country, it seems to be your opinion that the assistance of engineers should be more generally called in?—Clearly so; recourse ought to be had to the very first scientific and practical skill of the country; it requires the first civil engineers that can be found.

1687. That applies to putting the existing roads into good repair, independently of making new roads, does it?—Either; but more especially in making new roads.

1688. With regard to the present roads; will they not require considerable improvement in order to render them anything like what you say a road ought to be?—Undoubtedly they would; even supposing you were not to deviate a single foot from the existing roads, a large portion of them would require re-constructing.

1689. Would that be with reference to hills?—No, I mean with respect to the structure of the road itself; the structure of the crust.

1690. It diminishes the hardness so as to leave the tractive force much greater than it ought to be?—Just so.

1691. Is that a common fault in roads?—That is a very prevalent fault.

1692. Then with regard to hills; would you do anything with regard to them?—There is a great deal to be done with regard to them.

1693. Still more, perhaps, if it were determined that we were to have roads in the best direction?—I should say, if you were to take any two particular points in England, and were to take the first engineer you could get, and say to him, make the best road between such and such places, without the slightest regard to existing roads, I do not think he would coincide, except by accident, with any of the existing roads; it would be laid down on a totally different principle to what the present roads are laid down upon; the present roads are a series of shifts and expedients which the road-makers have adopted from time to time, without regard to the general scientific principles.

1694. Colonel *Rushbrooke.*] What do you suppose to have been the motives with which the present roads have been laid out in the present lines?—Originally the old horse-paths of the country were followed; and we have kept in the old line of road as long as we can, without great disadvantage. You may observe the most glaring defects take place: you make an occasional deviation with a view to improvement,

improvement, but return to the original line. There is scarcely an example of one continued line of road, of any length, laid down from end to end on any intelligible principle.

1695. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] If any plan were attempted by the Legislature for the improvement of the roads in their present state, it is decidedly your opinion that it ought to be conducted under the management of the most experienced civil engineer that this country possesses?—I am quite decidedly of that opinion.

1696. The surveyors generally of roads do not belong to the profession of engineers?—No.

1697. And engineers have not generally been employed in laying out roads?—No; the only cases, and the only species of roads in which great engineering skill has been called into play, are generally the railroads; and even in these there is a great dearth of it.

1698. Mr. *S. Mackenzie.*] Are you acquainted with the roads in the Highlands?—Yes.

1699. Lord *Lowther.*] I would wish to ask you a question about the elasticity of the road. How can it be proved what the elasticity of a road is; take Regent's-street for example, at four o'clock in the morning, when there are no persons there; you say it has been ascertained that there is an elasticity in almost every road; I wish to know whether there is any scientific mode of proving that elasticity?—If the elasticity be considerable it will be almost visible; you will almost see the surface yield under the wheels; but if it is less, we have no other means of proving it except by the tractive power.

1700. There has been such a thing as proving the elasticity of a suspension-bridge by a succession of telescopes?—That may be; but it is taking elasticity upon a very extensive scale.

1701. Now take a hard granite road, for instance, near London, of which the material is 10 inches thick, and which is dry and impenetrable by water, do you conceive that there is any elasticity in a road of that description?—Ten inches is a very considerable thickness for a road-crust of granite; and, if the subsoil be firm and hard, I dare say that that road would be very hard without applying Mr. Telford's method.

1702. Mr. *S. Mackenzie.*] Do you mean it would have no elasticity?—It would have very little elasticity.

1703. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] Does not the tractive power depend, in some measure, upon the friction of the wheels?—The tractive power depends partly upon the carriage; it is different with different carriages; it depends upon the asperities of the roads being encountered by the tire of the wheel; and then, lastly, it depends upon the softness or yielding quality of the road.

1704. Lord *Lowther.*] Of what stone do you conceive the smoothest surface could be made?—I am scarcely sufficiently acquainted with that subject to answer the question.

1705. Sir *Henry Parnell.*] Do you think that stone which possesses the greatest smoothness of surface would make the best surface?—I think it would, unless it were deficient in durability.

1706. Is it not apparent that the softest stone would wear into the smoothest surface sooner than an extremely hard stone?—Yes.

1707. Would you recommend a road to be made of that stone?—I should recommend that the upper stratum of the road should be made of that stone which would wear the smoothest; and that the under stratum should be made of the more durable stone.

1708. You have not probably applied much attention to the effect of different sorts of stones with respect to their smoothness and hardness, and their general effect upon the force of traction?—No, I have not.

1709. Mr. *Walker.*] I would wish to ask you a question with respect to the vibration upon a road; you stated that you considered the vibration a great repellant to the tractive power; now, in going over a moss, for instance, where there is an evident vibration, do you consider that that vibration is repellant to the tractive power?—I suppose that vibration to be identical, in fact, with what we have been calling elasticity.

1710. Lord *Lowther.*] Assuming your definition to be correct, that vibration and elasticity are the same, I would wish to ask you whether there would be more vibration or elasticity in a pavement than in a road?—There would be less in a pavement than in a road.

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1711. It has been observed in London that a house shakes more from a carriage going along the pavement than it does when the carriage goes along a Macadamized road?—That is from the percussion. I should state, perhaps, in speaking of pavement, that good pavement offers the least resistance to the tractive force. I should say that the pavement of the Strand or Fleet-street, when in good order, approaches as near to a railroad as anything can do.

1712. Mr. *Walker.*] In a well constructed pavement, such a pavement as you have alluded to, the more the masonic skill the less the percussion, and the greater the facility, is it not?—Yes.

1713. Therefore the great desideratum in paving is that there should be a very well constructed masonic arrangement?—Yes; but it is surprising, and you would scarcely believe it without a knowledge of the fact, the extent to which that, which has been called vibration, exists even on a railroad. I have experimented on a railroad for the purpose of feeling its surface as well as I could. I have gone in carriages without springs, and it is impossible to convey to you the intolerable sensation I experienced. I thought every limb in my system would be shaken to pieces; and that is the case even over the best railroads. It was produced partly by the joints of the rails on the chairs; there is also, however, some unevenness in the surface of the rail which you can scarcely be aware of; but it may be seen in this way. If you go to a railroad after a heavy shower of rain, and before the wet fully dries, and stand with your face to the sun, so that the rays of the sun striking on the rails will be reflected on the eye, you will see plainly all the unevenness on the surface of the rails, and you will see that they are not inconsiderable.

1714. *Chairman.*] Have you at all calculated the amount of friction produced by curves on a railroad?—The amount of that friction depends upon the velocity with which the carriage goes, and on the radius of the curve; the friction increases in the same proportion as the square of the speed; that is to say, if you double the speed it will give four times the resistance; and if you treble the speed it will give nine times the resistance, and so on in proportion. It also depends upon the radius of the curve, and it is inversely in proportion with the radius of the curve; the less the radius of the curve the greater will be the resistance.

1715. What is the greatest speed you have ever known to be travelled by carriages on a railroad?—In making experiments I have gone at the rate of 48 miles an hour.

1716. Are there any other observations or suggestions you can make, which you think will be serviceable to the Committee?—None, that I am aware of.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.—Abstract of Expenses of Metropolis Roads, 1827–1835 - - - p. 160

No. 2.—Abstract of Expenses of Middlesex and Essex Roads, 1827–1834 - p. 161

Appendix, No. 1.

ABSTRACT of the EXPENSES of the *Metropolis* Roads; extracted from the Official Returns, from Lady Day 1827 to Lady Day 1835, both inclusive.

Report.	——	DAY LABOUR.	Digging Gravel and Materials by Contract.	Compensation in getting Gravel.	Team-Labour, including Watering.	Materials, including Wharfage, &c.	Tradesmen's Bills.	Rent and Taxes of Wharfs and Depôts.	For Water.	Lighting.
No.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£ s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
2	25 March 1827 to 25 March 1828	12,902 17 2	4,863 13 10	- - -	13,693 4 2	19,377 18 1	4,250 1 6	298 7 2	323 - -	2,301 3 -
3	1828–29 - -	9,483 19 2½	4,232 - 9	- - -	16,948 7 2	22,562 14 9	6,345 15 11	793 13 10½	366 15 -	5,452 12 2
4	1829–30 - -	10,148 10 -	3,908 - 6	537 17 -	13,377 6 6	21,710 2 5	4,593 15 3	645 2 5	366 15 -	4,646 16 10
5	1830–31 - -	10,350 15 3½	5,404 19 7½	362 11 3	12,231 3 5	23,961 11 1	5,091 5 3	475 16 4	160 10 -	4,001 6 6
6	1831–32 - -	10,186 6 11	3,644 15 7	616 5 -	13,871 9 10	22,153 2 7	4,883 17 9	489 2 5	160 10 -	4,029 7 10
7	1832–33 - -	9,064 5 7	3,263 3 -	352 8 4	10,111 13 6	25,369 15 8	4,257 6 9	468 12 8	708 - -	4,147 1 5
8	1833–34 - -	8,936 5 -½	2,478 1 5½	303 9 6	10,682 4 1	30,702 17 2	3,831 9 -	454 14 7	748 - -	4,359 18 -
9	1834–35 - -	9,672 5 8	2,610 12 5	87 10 6	10,527 7 2	29,477 14 1	3,238 14 -	412 6 2	791 9 1	3,974 10 8
	£.	80,745 4 10½	30,405 7 2	2,260 1 7	101,442 15 10	195,315 15 10	36,492 5 5	4,037 15 7½	3,624 19 1	32,912 16 5
Average per Annum -	£.	10,093 3 1	3,800 13 7¾	282 10 2¼	12,680 6 11¾	24,414 9 5¾	4,561 10 8	504 16 11¼	453 2 -¼	4,114 2 -½

Add digging Gravel and Materials, by Contract - - - -	3,800 13 7¾
— Compensation in getting Gravel - - - - - -	282 10 2¼
— Rent and Taxes of Wharfs and Depôts - - - - -	504 16 11¼
TOTAL EXPENSE of Materials per Annum - - - £.	29,002 10 3

Watching.	Incidentals for Road.	Salaries, Wages, Commission Collecting Rates.	Rent and Taxes of Office.	Advertisements, Printing and Stationery.	Law Expenses.	Fitting up the Office, &c.	Surveying Plans and Expenses.	Number of Toll-Gates and Bars.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
698 10 11	496 7 10	3,317 3 4	284 7 10	416 13 1	1,422 8 -	499 7 11	206 - -	90
447 13 4	876 19 5	3,133 5 -	340 9 11	435 16 8	737 18 11	319 6 3	111 19 -	90
462 9 6	600 7 1	3,443 14 -	341 11 2	286 8 9	2,266 17 1	381 13 11	179 6 3	71
304 2 6	593 - 1	3,529 10 6	362 11 2	332 17 5	1,305 4 1	246 - 5	111 11 4	71
314 15 -	450 19 1	3,464 16 6	360 2 5	206 16 9	567 1 1	276 7 5	64 7 1	71
274 8 -	298 2 2	3,360 1 10	339 12 5	202 19 11	397 9 7	223 1 1	210 8 1	78
295 12 -	152 3 8	3,483 18 1	343 2 5	322 7 8	738 8 -	262 10 4	57 17 4	86
265 17 6	519 2 2	3,413 1 3	328 3 5	196 11 1	1,002 15 4	390 16 7	122 5 -	84
£. 3,063 8 9	3,987 1 6	27,145 10 6	2,700 - 9	2,400 11 4	8,438 2 1	2,599 3 11	1,063 14 1	—
£. 382 18 7	498 7 8¼	3,393 3 9¾	337 10 1	300 1 5	1,054 15 3	324 17 11¾	132 19 1	

ABSTRACT of the EXPENSES of the *Middlesex* and *Essex* Turnpike Roads, for the Years 1827 to 1834, both inclusive.

	Day Labour.	Including digging Gravel.	Compensation in getting Gravel.	Team-Labour, exclusive of Watering.	Materials, including Wharfage.	Tradesmen's Bills.	Rent and Taxes of Wharfs and Depôts.	Water, and Watering.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Year 1827	5,641 11 7½	- - -	- - -	2,621 13 -	526 11 -	1,302 10 7	- - -	404 11 -
— 1828	5,312 6 5	- - -	- - -	2,250 1 -	534 4 -	1,067 18 1	- - -	333 8 -
— 1829	4,618 2 1	- - -	- - -	1,979 7 -	294 4 -	721 12 -	- - -	289 7 -
— 1830	5,104 17 3½	- - -	- - -	2,414 8 -	337 11 -	758 1 5	- - -	1,271 6 -
— 1831	(a) 7,078 17 10	- - -	- - -	(a) 2,951 18 9	(a) 688 13 -	(a) 1,039 9 10	- - -	(a) 2,787 17 10
— 1832	5,398 2 7¾	- - -	- - -	2,501 - -	850 - -	722 15 9	- - -	1,524 13 1
— 1833	4,914 8 8½	- - -	- - -	2,448 18 -	774 17 -	854 14 11	- - -	1,621 2 -
— 1834	4,958 4 2¾	- - -	- - -	2,447 16 -	1,266 15 -	1,094 10 -	- - -	2,363 - -
£.	43,026 10 10	—	—	19,615 1 9	5,272 15 -	7,561 12 7	—	10,595 4 11
Average per Ann. £.	5,378 6 4¼	—	—	2,451 15 2½	659 1 10½	945 4 1¾	—	1,324 8 8¼

(a) These Items are for 14 months.

Lighting and Watching.	Incidentals.	Salaries, Wages, Commission Collecting Rates.	Rent, Taxes, and Expense of Office.	Rent, Repairs, Taxes, Advertisements, Stationery, Printing, and Disbursements.	Law Expenses.	Fitting up the Office, &c.	Surveying, Plans and Expenses, done by Surveyors, Excepting Three Surveys.	Toll-Gates and Bars.
£. s. d.		£. s. d.	£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.			
1,547 1 -	- - -	997 6 6	61	413 3 5	- - -		- - -	10
1,398 11 4	- - -	1,071 7 6	61	325 5 6½	475 5 2	1827 & 1828.	- - -	10
1,381 15 6	- - -	959 - -	61	308 11 2½	50 16 -	- - -	- - -	10
1,278 3 -	- - -	1,019 - -	61	210 3 1	78 8 -	- - -	- - -	10
1,131 18 3	- - -	(b) 987 19 6	61	(b) 319 18 11	241 16 -	- - -	- - -	10
(b) 1,193 5 -	- - -	961 - -	61	238 5 -	273 9 -	- - -	- - -	10
(b) 936 13 -	- - -	852 - -	61	245 12 4	54 - -	- - -	- - -	10
- - -	- - -	800 - -	61	273 7 9	(c) 550 - - / 61 19 -	- - -	- - -	10
£. 8,867 7 1	—	7,647 13 6	488	2,334 7 3	1,785 13 2	—	—	—
£. 1,108 8 -½	—	955 19 2½	61	291 15 10¾	223 4 1¾	—	—	—

(b) Watching discontinued.

(c) For Act of Parliament.

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